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Sports pg 13

Mooseheads deal for veteran Delmas



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• WEEKEND JANUARY 8-10 2010 metronews.ca

Local pg 5

Rapper wants you in next video



Stabbing victim not co-operating

CRIME Halifax Regional Police say a man in his late 20s isn't co-operating after receiving a single stab wound to the chest Thursday night in behind a Gottingen Street apartment building.

Police were called to 2313 Gottingen St. at 7:45 p.m. and found a man between the ages of 25 and 29 suffering from a non-life-threatening stab wound.

The victim was transported to QEII Health Sciences Centre. METRO HALIFAX

News on the Move

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Vancouver Games

Countdown to 2010

Follow Metro as we bring you daily coverage leading up to the 2010 Winter Olympics in Vancouver.

• Today — Scott Russell looks at the pressures facing Canadian Olympians like skater Scott Moir, page 15



On the web

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'He was my friend'

HRM taxi drivers relieved murder charge has been laid in Kostin death

MONIQUE MUISE
monique.muise@metronews.ca

Eugene Bely remembers vividly the day his friend Sergei Kostin went missing.

The Dartmouth cab driver had known Kostin, a fellow employee of Bob's/Blue Bell taxi, for nearly 11 years, and was immediately concerned something had gone horribly wrong when he didn't report in on the night of Jan. 17, 2009.



Sergei Kostin

"Somebody called me and said Sergei was missing," Bely recalled. "We started driving around asking people if they had seen a green car … but nobody had seen him."

Three days later, Kostin's burned-out car had been found, but it would be nearly 10 weeks before the remains of the 40-year-old Ukrainian man were finally discovered, dumped near the side of Upper Governor Road in North Preston. Kostin left behind a wife and two children, who are now living back in Ukraine.

On Thursday, after an exhaustive year-long investigation, officers with the RCMP Integrated Major Crime Section laid a single first-degree murder charge against 20-year-old Chaze Lamar Thompson of Dartmouth in connection with Kostin's death.

RCMP spokesman Cpl. Joe Taplin wouldn't comment on specific details of the investigation or what led to Thompson being charged.

"I feel the police did a good job," said Bely, a Hungarian native, as he stood waiting for a fare near Mic Mac Mall. "I was talking to (Kostin's) wife, and she said she wanted to know who did this. I think this will help."

Bely described his friend as a quiet, family-oriented man, and recalled a particular fishing trip they took together on the Stewiacke River.

"We caught a bass," he said, smiling. "He was a very nice guy."

A number of cab drivers idling nearby expressed similar sentiments of relief as news began to spread that the charge had been laid.

"It's excellent," said Oleg Monets. "My guess is that there will be more (charges)."

Monets, who is also from Ukraine, said he would be attending Thompson's first court appearance, scheduled for this morning in Dartmouth. Bely promised he would be there as well.

"I want to see everything," he said. "He was my friend."



RYAN TAPLIN/METRO HALIFAX

Cab driver Eugene Bely poses for a photo after talking with Metro on Thursday about his friend and fellow cab driver Sergei Kostin who was killed last January. Police charged Chaze Lamar Thompson on Thursday with first-degree murder in Kostin's death.

Previous charges

• According to court records, Thursday's charge of first-degree murder is only the latest in a string of charges against 20-year-old Chaze Lamar Thompson.

On Feb. 5 of last year, Thompson was arrested and charged in connection with an armed robbery at a Dartmouth video store. He was remanded to a Burnside jail, and is scheduled to stand trial in Nova Scotia Supreme Court in early March on those charges. Thompson also faces a number of assault and weapons charges stemming from an incident in February 2008.

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Local



Price of gas reported to rise again

The price of gasoline in HRM continues to go up. The regulated price was reported to be going up by about two cents at 12:01 a.m. Friday, which would bring the price to just under a $1.07 per litre in the metro area. The hike would mark the third-straight week prices have risen. At this time last year, gas was selling for just under 70 cents per litre for regular self serve. METRO HALIFAX

METRO INTERNATIONAL NEWSPAPER OF THE YEAR 2009 Festival of Media Awards

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HRM braces for CUPE strike

Influx of patients expected if health staff outside city walk out

JON TATTRIE
for Metro Halifax

A massive CUPE strike planned for a week from Monday could cause cancellations, delays and long waits at hospitals in HRM as city centres struggle to cover the influx of patients, a Capital District Health Authority vice-president warned Thursday.



RYAN TAPLIN/METRO HALIFAX

Patients at Capital Health District hospitals will see longer wait times and some elective surgeries rescheduled if hospital workers outside Halifax go on strike Jan. 18.

"We are concerned," Ken Baird said. "We're viewing this as a potential and hoping it doesn't happen, but we are part of the health system of Nova Scotia ... so Capital Health is working with the other districts to ensure we have an appropriate process in place to continue to provide appropriate care for Nova Scotians."

The union for more than 7,000 school and hospital support staff who work outside Halifax announced Wednesday they will go on strike Jan. 18 if a contract isn't finalized.

Capital Health workers aren't part of the proposed strike, but would have to deal with the spillover. Nova Scotian schools outside of HRM would also be hit as thousands of education workers take up pickets.

Union leaders say their key demand is maintaining wage parity between provincial workers and those in Halifax.

Baird said Capital Health is talking closely with health-care providers across the province to gauge the level of extra demand Capital Health should anticipate. While the other districts will maintain some emergency presence, Baird said, "We're anticipating we're going to see more referrals through our emergency department."

Given that the QEII Health Sciences Centre declared three Code Census alerts in one day earlier this week as the ER was overwhelmed by patients, that could spell even greater delays as the system struggles to handle an influx from around the province.

Non-urgent and elective surgeries would be "pushed down" the waiting list, Baird said, and ER patients will need patience when facing potential long delays in receiving treatment.

"It will continue to add pressure to the system here in Halifax," he said.

Crown drops charges in shooting case

WITHDRAWAL The Crown has dropped all charges against a 24-year-old man arrested in connection with a shooting in Dartmouth last spring.

Julian Frederick Chittick had been charged with attempted murder, dangerous driving, discharging a weapon and five other weapons-related offences after shots were allegedly fired at a 16-year-old boy on Lakecrest Drive on June 29, 2009.

Police said the boy was seen jumping from a vehicle that quickly drove away from the scene. He received minor injuries as a result of the fall.

A warrant for Chittick's arrest was issued three months later, and he eventually turned himself in.

Public Prosecution Services spokeswoman Chris Hansen said all charges against Chittick were withdrawn Thursday after it was determined that there was no realistic chance of a conviction because the victim was not co-operating with police.

METRO HALIFAX

3 suspects sought in armed robbery

CRIME Police are searching for three suspects after an armed robbery in Bedford early Thursday morning.

Police say three men entered the lobby of the Holiday Inn on Kearney Lake Road just before 1 a.m. and demanded cash. One suspect was allegedly armed with a knife, and another with a gun.

Police say the men received an undisclosed amount of money before fleeing on foot.

The suspects are described as white males, all around six feet tall, wearing camouflage jackets and masks.

No one was injured in the incident. METRO HALIFAX

Drug charges laid after vehicle chase

CRIME Two people are facing charges after a low-speed chase in Dartmouth on Wednesday night.

Police say a patrol car attempted to stop a vehicle on Windmill Road around 8:30 p.m., but the driver refused to pull over. After a brief chase, the vehicle stopped and a search of the car allegedly netted drugs and bear spray.

A 37-year-old man from the Dartmouth area has been charged with trafficking of a controlled substance and operating a motor vehicle while prohibited. A 22-year-old Dartmouth woman is facing weapons charges, along with trafficking of a controlled substance and breach of probation.

Both were scheduled to appear in court yesterday.

METRO HALIFAX

Contingency plans in works, ministers say

PREPARATIONS Nova Scotia's departments of health and education are preparing for the possibility of a massive strike later this month by workers in rural hospitals and schools.

All nine health districts have been asked to design a contingency plan that would address emergencies and cancer care, Health Minister Maureen MacDonald said Thursday.

"We've known about the possibility of a strike for some time so we've been working on the contingency plans for weeks," she said.

"Patient safety is our number 1 priority."

MacDonald said she had some assurances from CUPE, the union that represents the workers, that essential services will be maintained, but elective surgeries are already being cancelled.

Education Minister Marilyn More also said her department was preparing for the possibility of a walkout.



Maureen MacDonald

All school boards have been asked to devise contingency plans.

More said she wouldn't speculate on how long schools could stay open without cleaning staff to mop up each school day.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

School buses to be affected?

- The looming CUPE strike could take school buses off the roads, meaning a riskier commute for kids as harried parents rush their children to classes, the Ecology Action Centre warned Thursday. To minimize the risk, Barlow urged parents to reduce traffic by carpooling and to form "walking school bus" groups to safely see children to school.

METRO HALIFAX

Fourth-quarter real-estate prices in Halifax make gains: Report

PROPERTY Real-estate prices are rising across Halifax, according to a Royale LePage report issued Thursday.

The average fourth-quarter price for detached bungalows rose 10.7 per cent over last year to $238,000, two-storey houses rose 1.8 per cent to $265,333 and condos rose 4.7 per cent to $167,000.

Royale LePage attributed the growth to workers returning from out West to buy homes and growth in the technology industry.

Nationally, the average price of detached bungalows rose to $315,055 (up six per cent), standard two-storey homes rose to $353,026 (up 5.2 per cent) and standard condos rose to $205,756 (up 6.4 per cent).

Royale LePage predicted Canada's real-estate market will remain "unusually strong" through the first half of 2010. METRO HALIFAX

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WHAT'S ONLINE TODAY

Video Thousands of officers from across Canada and the U.S. gather to remember a slain Ottawa officer at metronews.ca/canada

Blogs Backbeat checks in with his music predictions for the next decade



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Chamber says teaching right skills to students a necessity

The Halifax Chamber of Commerce said Thursday the training of potential employees in Halifax is looking brighter, but the need to graduate students with the right mix of skills still remains. The comments are part of its Economic Strategy Scorecard Report, which is being released Jan. 13. METRO HALIFAX

Provinces 'have a legitimate role' in Senate reform: Dexter

Premier concerned Harper will move without outside input

Nova Scotia Premier Darrell Dexter is insisting the provinces have a say in any plan aimed at Senate reform.

The NDP premier said Thursday he's worried that Prime Minister Stephen Harper's renewed focus on revamping the upper chamber will be unilateral.

"If that kind of discussion is going to take place then the provinces have a legitimate role to play," Dexter said as he emerged from a cabinet meeting Thursday.

"It's as fundamental as the founding documents of the country."

Dexter said he supports the federal NDP's stance on abolishing the Senate, but adds any discussion on how to proceed can come later.

"I think a lot of premiers across the country see that as a legitimate option, as do I," he said.

"But if that is not on the table, the question becomes: 'How is any constitutional change going to take place?'"



RYAN TAPLIN/METRO HALIFAX

Premier Darrell Dexter speaks with reporters following a provincial cabinet meeting on Thursday. Dexter says the provinces must have a say in any plans to reform the Canadian Senate.

Dexter said he understands what the prime minister is trying to do and that there are limited options with respect to Senate reform.

"What he's really doing is bringing forward legislation that will allow him to set up a mechanism for nomination of senators, but still ... it really ought to be a matter of discussion among all the parties."

Nova Scotia has 10 Senate seats.

The federal government revealed this week it would revive its plan to reform the Senate after Parliament resumes in March.

The Liberals, NDP and Bloc Québécois have all opposed Harper's Senate bills.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Gas tax hearings unfair, says McNeil

Plans to hold public hearings on lowering the gas tax in Amherst have drawn the ire of provincial Opposition Leader Stephen McNeil.



McNeil

McNeil feels the NDP government has its mind made up on cutting the gas tax near the New Brunswick border and holding the only public meeting on the issue in Amherst is a blatant attempt to undermine the consultative process.

"It's nothing more than a public relations exercise by the NDP government," McNeil said.

"By holding the lone meeting in Amherst they're going where they'll get the answer they want."
Opposition Leader Stephen McNeil

"By holding the lone meeting in Amherst they're going where they'll get the answer they want. Who's going to be opposed to paying less for gas? Meanwhile the rest of Nova Scotia is not going to get an opportunity to weigh in."

The Utility and Review Board has scheduled hearings in Amherst on Jan. 27 to discuss the government's plan to stagger gas taxes across the province. Under the proposal, those living farther from the border would pay more for fuel than those neighbouring New Brunswick.

Cumberland North MLA Brian Skabar of the NDP who first proposed a tax break for the Amherst area during last summer's election campaign thinks McNeil is being silly.

"The whole issue of whether people in Amherst are paying less for gas is really less an issue because people from Amherst are paying less for gas, they just have to drive six kilometres across the border to get it," Skabar said. "The New Brunswick government is making money off that."

AMHERST DAILY NEWS

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Offer accepted by inside workers: HRM

Inside workers for HRM narrowly accepted what the municipality deemed its final contract offer Thursday night.

A HRM media release said the multi-year offer now goes before Halifax Regional Council for ratification. The final voting results weren't released, but a source told Metro support was just above the majority needed to pass with 54 per cent voting yes.

"HRM is pleased to conclude a collective agreement," Andrea Gillis, HRM's chief negotiator, said in a release.

The offer presented in November didn't have support of the Nova Scotia Union of Public and Private Employees Local 13, which represents the 800 HRM inside workers, such as clerical staff and city planners.

Union brass is upset the deal gives HRM the right to administer polygraph tests to employees and the right to record certain employee phone conversations.

HRM spokesperson Shaune MacKinlay has defended the offer, saying the municipality feels it is fair.

The union has been without a contract since Oct. 31, 2008. The deal includes raises of three per cent the first year, and two per cent each of the next two years. METRO HALIFAX

Province seeks feedback on non-essential pesticide ban

The government is seeking public feedback on a proposed ban on the sale and use of non-essential lawn-care pesticides. Nova Scotians have until March 7 to tell the NDP what they think about plans to toughen restrictions.

"The province is committed to fostering a healthier, more sustainable environment and is looking for ways to reduce non-essential pesticide use," Environment Minister Sterling Belliveau said in a release.

Health Canada urges a reduction in exposure to pesticides and controls commercial and restricted pesticides used for things like public health, commercial golf courses or agriculture. The province addresses non-essential use like lawn care.

METRO HALIFAX

Viewpoints

- To comment, go to www.gov.ns.ca/nse/pests or call 1-888-320-0555. A report on the proposed ban can be found at the same website.

Oil company plans to drill two wells near Lake Ainslie

ONSHORE An eastern Canadian oil and gas company plans to drill two onshore oil wells near Lake Ainslie in Cape Breton this summer.

PetroWorth Resources Inc. expects to spend about $2 million drilling and developing the wells, which will be toward the eastern end of a 383,000-acre block of land that stretches west of Lake Ainslie on which the company has exploration and development rights.

CAPE BRETON POST

School set to open doors
The doors opened for the first time to students Thursday at the $11.3-million Oxford Regional Education Centre. METRO HALIFAX

Classified wants to see some patriotism

Rapper seeking extras for Oh Canada video

JON TATTRIE
for Metro Halifax

Enfield rapper Classified is calling for a Canadian riot in Halifax on Sunday afternoon. The hip hop star wants up to 1,000 flag-waving fans to swarm a section of the downtown and act as extras in his video for Oh Canada.

"We're celebrating Canada. It's going to be like what the streets should've looked like if Canada won the game last night," he said earlier this week, the day after the national junior team lost gold to the U.S. "It just goes to show Canadian pride."

Classified wants red and white flags, toques, jackets, signs and painted faces to fill the pedestrian section of Granville Street starting at noon and running until 5 p.m. Classified, a.k.a. Enfield's Luke Boyd, will be on hand to meet fans and sign autographs, as well as shoot the video.

Oh Canada, from the 2009 album Self Explanatory, was written as Classified toured the world and ran up against the strange ideas people sometimes have about Canadians.

"We've all heard the stereotypes and the things they think Canadians portray. It's poking fun, but being proud of who we are," he explained.


SUBMITTED

Enfield rapper Classified is shooting a new video for his single Oh Canada in downtown Halifax Sunday afternoon and hopes 1,000 Haligonians will come out to be apart of it.

Facebook

- Check out Classified's Facebook page or go to halfliferecords.ca for complete details about Sunday's video shoot.

"I've been around the globe and heard the confusion. Honestly a lot of y'all are ignorant and stupid," he raps in Oh Canada before name-checking great Canucks. "Our national mascot's a damn beaver. Oh Canada, we love our beaver," he concludes.

The rest of the video will see Classified re-mix the famous Canadian Heritage Minutes. Classified and his crew will bump aside James Naismith and his peach baskets to reinvent basketball and then recreate the birth of the national anthem.

"Me and my boys, we're all going to dress up. We got the wigs and the moustaches and the old clothing," he said. "We're just poking fun — we don't want to make it too serious."

P.E.I. joins ban on using cell while driving

FINES Prince Edward Island motorists are set to join Nova Scotia in ringing up a hefty fine if caught driving while chatting on their cellphones.

A ban of handheld electronic communication devices while operating a motor vehicle should be law by the end of this month, said P.E.I.'s Transportation Minister Ron MacKinley. The fine would be up to $400. P.E.I. introduced legislation to ban handheld devices while driving last spring but ended up pulling the legislation so more consultation could be carried out.

Now the Island will follow in the tracks of Newfoundland and Labrador, Quebec, Nova Scotia and Ontario — all provinces that have similar bans.

CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

N.S. school boards mull moving winter break

GAMES While it was announced last November that schools in HRM would be moving its March Break to February for 2011 because Halifax is hosting the Canada Winter Games, the rest of the province is now determining whether to follow suit.

The Nova Scotia School Boards Association has said it would lobby the province for the change, but it depends on whether or not individual school boards want it.

"If there's a consensus across the province that they would like to see what's happening outside of Halifax changed to the same thing that is happening in Halifax, then we would make a representation to the department of education," said NSSBA president Ron Marks.

Marks, who is also a Chignecto Central Regional School Board member, said so far the topic hasn't come up at CCRSB meetings.

"I've heard from individual board members. Some are for it and some are against," he said.

Besides moving the break from March to February, a one week Canada Games break has also been added for students and staff in Halifax Regional School Board and the metro-area schools of the Conseil scolaire acadien provincial.

Schools in HRM will close from Feb. 14 to Feb. 25, the same time the Games are held.

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Gamblers win millions, but claim they're not so lucky

Quebec's lottery commission has reached a tentative multimillion-dollar agreement to compensate thousands of addicted gamblers in a class-action settlement that must still be approved by a judge. But the plaintiffs say the reported $50-million payoff amounts to less than one-tenth what they were hoping for. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Canada



Reeves case collapses

An Ontario judge has dismissed a paternity suit against actor Keanu Reeves. Karen Sala alleged Reeves was the father of her four adult children and sought $3 million a month in support. But Judge Fred Graham in Barrie, Ont., said Sala's allegations were "so incredible" no reasonable judge would accept them. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Canada plans big terror trap

Canada is quietly working on a super system to ferret out airline terror threats.

The electronic system would allow security agencies to analyze the personal information of every passenger.

It would crunch personal details about more than 200 million people annually.

And it would demonstrate "to the U.S. that Canada remains committed to the security of North America."

"Work has already begun to review Canada's approach to assessing air passengers," says an official report, obtained by The Canadian Press under the Access to Information Act.

Officials have been quietly toiling in the shadows on the system, which involves input from the Canada Border Services Agency, Transport Canada, CSIS and the RCMP.

Critics, however, question whether the project is a wise use of money.

They argue there should be public debate and scrutiny of the potentially invasive tool.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Ottawa **Officers bid farewell to a hero**



PAWEL DWULIT/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Thousands of police officers from across Canada and the United States escort the hearse of Ottawa police Const. Ireneusz Eric Czapnik during his funeral in Ottawa Thursday. Czapnik was stabbed to death. Kevin Gregson, 43, a suspended Mountie, has been charged in the death and is in custody. Premier Dalton McGuinty said Czapnik was a hero who put his life on the line for the community.

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Harper gets no halo from mag

PROROGATION An influential British newsmagazine is not amused by Stephen Harper's recent parliamentary tactics.

The Economist Thursday published a critical story about the Conservative prime minister's suspension of parliament and a scathing editorial under the headline, "Harper goes prorogue."

"Never mind what his spin doctors say: Mr. Harper's move looks like naked self-interest," says the editorial.

The Economist, which has a circulation of about 1.4 million — about half in North America — endorsed Harper in the 2006 and 2008 elections, but the bloom appears to be off the rose.

The Economist suggests, tongue in cheek, that Harper should simply shut down Parliament altogether until the economy is running at full throttle.

A Facebook site against Harper's prorogation had more than 88,000 members as of mid-afternoon Thursday. But Facebook sites on far less weighty issues routinely rack up six-figure lists.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

"Mr. Harper's moves looks like naked self-interest."
The Economist

What are these sites smoking?

LEGAL POT Medical marijuana may be legal, but fire chiefs say some grow-ops in Ontario and B.C. are a safety hazard.

Jim Jessop, of the Ontario Association of Fire Chiefs, says he has seen some legal sites with poor wiring, improperly stored chemicals and charred floors from high-powered lights.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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ScanLife
Thousands of Afghans protest the latest case of civilian casualties in a NATO operation. Scan this code for the full story.

News in brief

CRIME A man who tried to clear a street with a snowblower ended up with a public intoxication ticket. Police in Barrie, Ont., say he was too intoxicated to operate the machine. An intoxication ticket runs $55. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Canada says Thailand deporting legit refugees
Canada is accusing the Thai government of flouting international law by sending UN-designated refugees back to their home country of Laos. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Gym-goers speak up about poor etiquette

Exercising is great, but respect others

KRISTEN THOMPSON
Metro Canada

Sticking to that hard-to-keep New Year's resolution to exercise would be easier if other gym-goers were a little more thoughtful, according to readers.

Metro asked Canadians to share their gym pet peeves, and it seems many of us come close to throwing a fit while trying to keep fit because of those smelly, weight-banging machine hogs that plague gyms from coast-to-coast.

Topping the list as the most irksome gym no-no are people who leave sweat on equipment. A close second are social butterflies who monopolize equipment.



Richard Simmons likes sweating it up at the gym.

"I hate feeling like (I'm) intruding on a private gym," said Mike Thompson, a student in Ottawa.

"Working out with buddies and making friends is cool, but … I pay to work out in peace, not feel awkward or in the way."

Randall Smith, manager at Westside Gym in Vancouver, said gyms are extra busy right now because of New Year's resolutions, and newcomers should learn the ropes to avoid breaking gym etiquette.

"The best thing to do is make yourself familiar with the rules at your gym," he said.

"Putting equipment away is a big rule. Don't sit on your machine between your sets. Grunting and noises, especially with guys, doesn't impress anyone."

Lastly, he said, consider your personal hygiene. Wear deodorant and keep perfume and cologne to a minimum.

Halifax tweets

• @mickey-maclean my biggest gym pet peeve is people talking on cellphones while working out its sooo annoying !!!

• @musicsunshine Definitely staying on the machine when its passed your time. Worst ever! ... people who love being naked in the changing rooms — bending over, taking their time. AHH change already! Im not even a prude!



2010 citizen SURVEY

Your Opinion Matters!

A random sample of HRM citizens will receive letters from Mayor Peter Kelly this month, requesting them to take part in the 2010 HRM Citizen Survey. If you are selected, we encourage you to participate, and have your voice heard.

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Naked jogger remanded for mental evaluation

Authorities say a man who took off his clothes and went jogging in near-freezing temperatures near the White House Wednesday has been hospitalized for psychiatric evaluation. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

World



Failed challenge exposes divisions

A failed challenge to British Prime Minister Gordon Brown's Labour party leadership has exposed divisions in his government and pessimism among allies over his re-election prospects, pollsters and analysts said. The Cabinet Wednesday put down a rebellion by two former ministers who sought a secret ballot on whether Brown should remain in charge of the party. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The buck stops here

Report on plane incident released, Obama takes responsibility

"The buck stops with me," U.S. President Barack Obama said Thursday as he outlined measures aimed at preventing another terrorist attack on the United States in the tense aftermath of a Christmas Day attempt to blow a Detroit-bound jetliner out of the sky.

"When the system fails, it's my responsibility," Obama said — an indication that no high-level firings of intelligence officials would result from the near-miss incident. The president said he's ordered steps be taken to ensure all leads on potential terrorist plots are thoroughly investigated, that intelligence is better shared and that no-fly lists are utilized properly.

"We can't sit on information that can protect the American people."

As the president spoke at the White House, his administration released a declassified version of a preliminary, six-page report on what went wrong two weeks ago when 23-year-old Nigerian Umar Farouk Abdulmutallab allegedly tried to blow up the airliner with explosives hidden in his pants. The device was ignited, but failed to detonate. Passengers and crew subdued Abdulmutallab, an apparent al-Qaida operative.

Abdulmutallab, who was indicted on Wednesday on attempted murder, has reportedly told investigators he was trained by al-Qaida operatives in Yemen. His father also warned that his son was an extremist.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Failed to act

- Obama said intelligence agencies knew that an al-Qaida affiliate based in Yemen was plotting an attack on the U.S., but failed to zero in on the "known terrorist" before he boarded the Northwest flight in Amsterdam.

India **Dalai Lama lectures**



RAJESH KUMAR SINGH/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

A young Indian Buddhist monk listens to the Dalai Lama's lecture at Mahabodhi temple in Bodh Gaya, India, Thursday. Bodh Gaya is the town where Prince Siddhartha Gautama attained enlightenment after intense meditation and became the Buddha. The lectures will continue until Sunday.



Earth-like planets could be found soon: Astronomers

SPACE Excited astronomers say they could find Earth-like planets in just a few years. Astronomers say they are on the verge of finding planets like Earth orbiting other stars, a key step in determining if we are alone in the universe.

A top NASA official and other leading scientists say that within four or five years they should discover the first Earth-like planet where life could develop, or may have already.

A planet close to the size of Earth could even be found sometime this year if preliminary hints from a new space telescope pan out.

At the annual American Astronomical Society conference this week, each discovery involving so-called "exoplanets" — those outside our solar system — pointed to the same conclusion: Quiet planets like Earth where life could develop probably are plentiful, despite a violent universe of exploding stars, crushing black holes and colliding galaxies.

NASA's new Kepler telescope and a wealth of new research from the suddenly hot and competitive exoplanet field generated noticeable buzz at the convention. Scientists are talking about being at "an incredible special place in history" and closer to answering a question that has dogged humanity since the beginning of civilization. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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SCANLIFE

Scottish officials have linked a deadly outbreak of anthrax to contaminated heroin. Scan this code for the full story.

News in brief

SRI LANKA A UN human rights investigator said Thursday that a videotape of an apparent execution of blindfolded and naked Tamils by Sri Lankan soldiers probably is authentic and called for a war crimes investigation. Philip Alston did not specify who should undertake his recommended investigation into war crimes and other grave violations of human rights allegedly committed in Sri Lanka. The government's 25-year war against Tamil Tiger rebels ended in May.

BRITAIN A 14-year-old math prodigy has been offered a place at prestigious Cambridge University — if he can pass just one more exam. Arran Fernandez, who was home-schooled in southern England's Surrey county, was offered an undergraduate place at Cambridge's Fitzwilliam College after passing the university's entrance exam. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

U.S. says staff being harassed
The U.S. Embassy says staff are being harassed as they travel around Pakistan. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Mona Lisa should have eaten better: Professor

In what may be the ultimate long-distance diagnosis, an Italian doctor has weighed in on the secret of Mona Lisa's smile: high cholesterol.

That adds another theory to a running list that is almost as old as Leonardo da Vinci's portrait itself, painted about 500 years ago, that already ranges from motherhood to old varnish.

Dr. Vito Franco, professor of pathological anatomy at the University of Palermo, told a meeting in Florence, Italy, that the look in Mona Lisa's eyes is a result of a build-up of fatty acids under the skin, a clear sign of high cholesterol.

"Illness exists within the body, it does not have a metaphysical or supernatural dimension," Franco told La Stampa newspaper this week.

"The people depicted in art reveal their physicality, tell us of their vulnerable humanity, regardless of the artist's awareness of it."

Franco is not the first doctor to worry about Mona Lisa's diet and arteries. A Japanese heart specialist in preventive medicine, Haruo Nakamura declared in 1991 that the woman was likely to have had arteriosclerosis, traced to the yellow swellings next to the bridge of her nose, "one of the symptoms of high cholesterol."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Pregnant glow?

• Canadian researchers in 2006 concluded Mona Lisa's skin discolouration was from the glow of motherhood. Using infrared and 3D technology, the National Research Council spotted a 16th century "maternity veil" over her dress, which dovetailed with the birth of a second child to Lisa Gherardini, the wife of a silk merchant long considered the most likely identity of the woman in the portrait.

News in brief

YEMEN The Yemeni government on Thursday provided the most comprehensive account yet of contacts between the Nigerian accused of trying to blow up an airliner and al-Qaida, saying he may have met with a radical U.S.-born cleric who previously had contact with the alleged Fort Hood shooter. In the weeks before the attempted Christmas Day airliner attack, Umar Abdulmutallab met with al-Qaida operatives in a remote mountainous region, according to Yemen's Deputy Prime Minister Rashad al-Alimi. However, al-Alimi insisted Abdulmutallab was recruited by al-Qaida in Britain and the 23-year-old received the explosives in Nigeria.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



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Comment

Online news sites hijacked by crazies

UrbanCompass



Mainstream media online comments sections were supposed to be one of those glorious triumphs of citizen democracy in the new Internet age. They offered a public space where ordinary readers could talk back to writers and to the people they wrote about, a free-range forum for spirited, intelligent discussion of civic issues…

Instead, it has come to this.

On Dec. 16, the Globe and Mail hastily disabled public comments on a blog item concerning Nova Scotia Liberal MP Scott Brison's Christmas card to his constituents. Brison's seemingly innocuous pastoral-scene card featured the MP, his same-sex spouse Maxime St. Pierre and their dog Simba standing — at a discreet distance from one another — in the middle of a yellowish autumn field.

"Comments have been closed due to an overwhelming number of hateful and homophobic remarks," explained an editors' note. "We appreciate that readers want to discuss this issue, but we can't allow our site to become a platform for intolerance."

Unfortunately, the Brison brouhaha isn't unusual. Virtually every online news site's reader comments section has been hijacked by crude crazies of all different shades of intolerant ideology, whose always thoughtless, often venomous upchuckings seem to have discouraged almost anyone else from bothering to post. Including at serious news sites like the Globe's.

The problem, it seems to me, is that the news sites — partly to avoid having to manage what, in a gentler, less digital era, used to be called letters to the editor, and partly to generate a bottomless pit of cost-free content — have abandoned their own responsibility (except in extreme situations) to identify and vet what people post.

Like the quaint idea that people should pay for content, the notion that individuals should be responsible for what they say now seems hopelessly dated. Pity.

Stephen Kimber, the Rogers Communications Chair in Journalism at the University of Kings College, is the author of eight books.

Views

Weeding out a bad home purchase

Marketplace



We all know Mike Holmes — the guy with biceps the size of tires, who rights wrongs when it comes to home renovations. But at Marketplace, we team up with Mike Friday night to tackle a growing (no pun intended) problem in Canada — homes that are used for marijuana grow-ops, then sold to unsuspecting buyers.

The RCMP estimates there are thousands of houses being used for grow-ops today, often in quiet, suburban neighbourhoods, where you'd least expect them. They're often quietly patched up — leaving new homeowners stuck with mould, structural and electrical issues.

Theresa Denton was happy with her house purchase near Kamloops, B.C., until she learned it'd been a grow-op for almost a decade. Today, she's facing a bill that could top $100,000 just to make her home safe to live in. Her walls are covered in mould, and her son's developed such a severe mould allergy, he has to take medication to help him breathe.

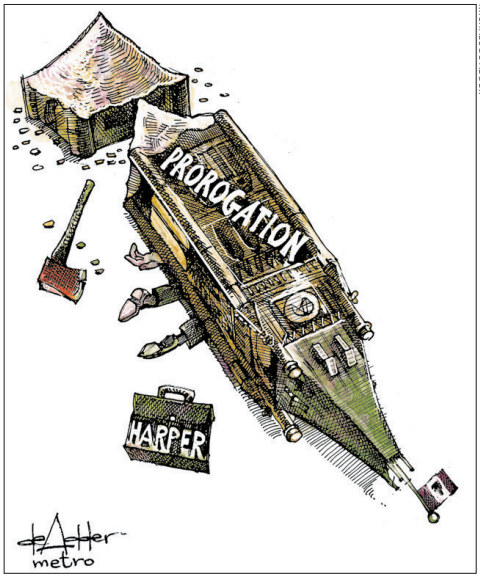
Denton — like other unsuspecting homeowners — hired a home inspector before she bought her house. But in his report, he makes no mention of mould all over the attic walls. "He had a flashlight," said Denton. "Either he's not telling the truth, or he's just completely incompetent."

It's a story Mike Holmes is hearing more and more — home inspectors who don't spot costly problems, especially when it comes to spotting grow-op warning signs. "I think we need to do something about the home inspection industry," said Holmes. "It's obvious that it's not working."

When we caught up with Theresa Denton's home inspector, he told us he wasn't responsible for Denton's nightmare, and his contract even says so.

Denton's now suing her home inspector, the former owner of the house, and her real estate agent. Sadly, the courts are full of cases like Denton's — homebuyers who thought a home inspection would protect them.

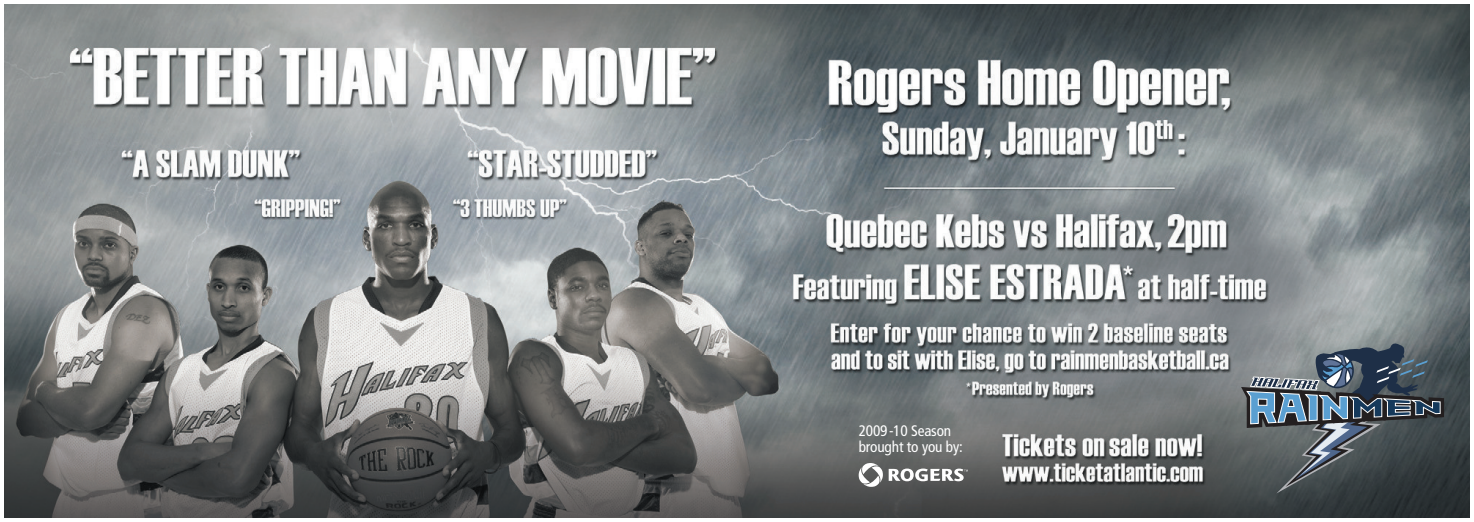
Erica Johnson is a journalist and co-host of CBC News: Marketplace, Canada's award-winning consumer affairs show. CBC News: Marketplace airs each Friday night at 8:30 p.m. on CBC Television.



MICHAEL DE ADDER

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GM makes first electric battery to power Chevrolet Volt
General Motors has made its first mass-produced electric car battery as it gears up to sell the new Chevrolet Volt to the general public later this year. The lithium-ion battery was made Thursday at GM's Brownstown Battery Pack Assembly Plant. Regular production at both facilities is expected to begin in the fourth quarter. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Business

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EDITOR: FERMIN.DESOUZA@METRONEWS.CA

'Generation Debt' needs financial crash course: Experts

As Canadian consumers waded deeper into debt during the so-called Great Recession, the federal government decided it was time to boost financial literacy, a life lesson many Canadians missed before their balances plunged deep into the red.

Finance Minister Jim Flaherty launched the Financial Literacy Task Force in June, citing his belief that a financially literate population would create a more stable economy.

After a 20-year trend of increased debt and reduced savings, combined with easy credit and dwindling pension plans, financial planning must be ingrained in Canadians, said Tom Hamza, president of the Investor Education Fund. The fund is charged with figuring out how to integrate financial lessons into Ontario's curricula for Grade 4 to 12 students by September 2011.

Hamza said that educating children can help combat some of the damaging examples many parents have inadvertently taught their children over the last two decades.

"That is the exact time period that our household debt levels have gone up, our savings levels have plummeted, and we've changed our perspective from 'Can I afford it?' to 'Can I afford the payments?'" he said. "That's the circumstance in which our kids are learning."

Older members of the demographic, sometimes referred to as "Generation Debt," are accruing debt at rates never seen before.

A Harris-Decima poll suggests that 60 per cent of baby boomers financially support their adult children, and while a majority said they were self-sufficient by age 21, they expect their children's independence to be delayed to age 25.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Teach kids to save

- Sit down with your children and discuss what it means to budget, or be in debt, and involve them in the family budgeting. Offer small incentives for kids to help parents cut back on the household phone bill or heating costs.

Tax Google, save the record biz?

INTERNET How to help prop up the ailing music industry? Tax Google, suggests a new report commissioned by the French government.

The report, handed to Culture Minister Frederic Mitterrand on Wednesday, says Google and other Internet portals should be slapped with a new tax on their online ad revenues in France to fund the development of legal outlets for buying books, movies and especially music on the Internet.

Critics say the plan would be messy to implement and that Internet portals would shoulder an unfair share of the burden.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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ScanLife

Recently released emails suggesting banks were pressured to keep quiet reignites U.S. bailout controversy. Scan this code for the full story.

Business in brief

RETAIL Last-minute holiday shoppers brought relief to America's retailers, handing them modest sales gains for the season and prompting several chains to raise their fourth-quarter profit outlooks. The improved profit picture comes because retailers never had to resort to drastic price-cutting after keeping inventories lean. The solid finish capped a year that saw the biggest sales decline in at least four decades

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



PAUL SAKUMA/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The Intel Corp. booth at the Consumer Electronics Show (CES) in Las Vegas Thursday. Intel rolled out new computer chips at the trade show that highlight the company's lead over Advanced Micro Devices Inc. in shrinking the circuitry inside its processors.

Sony to adapt cameras for SD cards

TECH Sony camcorders and cameras will soon come with the ability to accept Secure Digital flash memory cards — the kind used by practically every other manufacturer.

For more than decade, Sony Corp. has used only memory cards of its own Memory Stick design. Sony Electronics Inc. president Stan Glasgow says the company will continue to develop that format, and new gadgets will still have Memory Stick slots, even as the company starts making SD cards.

"It's all about giving consumers choice," Glasgow said at the International Consumer Electronics show in Las Vegas.

The trade show also saw a boom of firms hawking ebook devices, such as Amazon's Kindle. This week, nearly two dozen companies made up the show's first-ever section devoted to ebooks, located in prime real estate in the Las Vegas Convention Center often held by the likes of Microsoft. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Positive job data expected for December

LABOUR The Canadian economy is again poised to start churning out jobs instead of burning them.

Following the pre-Christmas surprise that 79,000 jobs were created in November, economists expect December's numbers, which will be announced Friday morning, to again be positive. And the outlook for 2010 is even rosier, with some projecting that more than 300,000 new jobs will be created.

The consensus of 22 economists surveyed this week forecast a 20,000 gain in December. That would be the second consecutive month of job gains, despite a so-so economy that only showed the first significant signs of growth at the end of 2009.

Economists say panicky employers overdid the shedding of jobs during the downturn and now that production appears to be expanding sharply, employers will have to bring some of those workers back. THE CANADIAN PRESS

CMHC Housing Outlook Conference – Halifax



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Conference Highlights

ALEX MACDONALD, *CMHC Regional Economist*, will provide an overview of the economy and housing sector in Atlantic Canada as well as details on CMHC's forecast for the region.

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GREATER HALIFAX PARTNERSHIP
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MATTHEW GILMORE, *CMHC, Senior Market Analyst*, will provide an analysis and overview of local housing market trends in the current economic environment and offer insights into the Halifax housing outlook for the next two years.

Registration Fee

Early Bird (by January 27, 2010)	$185.00/pp (tax included)
Regular Rate	$225.00/pp (tax included)
Group Rate for a group of six (names of individuals must be provided at time of registration)	$940.00 (tax included)

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Canada

CMHC SCHL HOME TO CANADIANS

Holt Renfrew appoints Mark Derbyshire as new president

Canadian high-end retailer Holt Renfrew & Co. Ltd. says it has appointed Mark Derbyshire, former vice-president of human resources at the company, as its new president. THE CANADIAN PRESS

BMO program to teach rich about money

Call it financial literacy for the rich.

Bank of Montreal's private banking division will start offering cross-Canada seminars next month specially designed for affluent adults, including those who marry into money.

The invitation-only program enables a high net worth client to enrol a spouse or another adult relative in a financial boot camp of sorts that teaches the basics of money management and keeping the family fortune intact.

BMO's Financial Focus seminars are a part-day course that tackles a variety of day-to-day issues such as budgeting, mortgages, banking, cash flow management, credit, investing and estate planning.

It launched the program at the urging of its well-off clients. Many believe a spouse or an adult family member lacks experience with personal finances, said Sara Plant, vice-president and national director of wealth services with BMO Harris Private Banking.

"We're often having very personal discussions with them about their families. And in those discussions, it comes to light that our clients are experiencing some kind of change or transition," Plant said.

Sessions will be held in major cities from February to April.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Big money

- A high net worth client for the BMO program is someone with investable assets of at least $500,000.

Polaroid Going Gaga



ISAAC BREKKEN/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Chart-topping pop singer Lady Gaga appears at the Polaroid booth to announce a partnership during the Consumer Electronics Show (CES) Thursday in Las Vegas.

Business in brief

CADBURY British chocolate and gum company Cadbury PLC said Thursday it will publish an updated defence against Kraft Foods Inc.'s hostile takeover bid next week, followed by a report of its 2009 financial performance.

FERTILIZER Canadian fertilizer companies are being watched closely by investors as contract wrangling continues with China over prices for potash, a key ingredient in agricultural inputs.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

China raises interest rates on 3-month bills

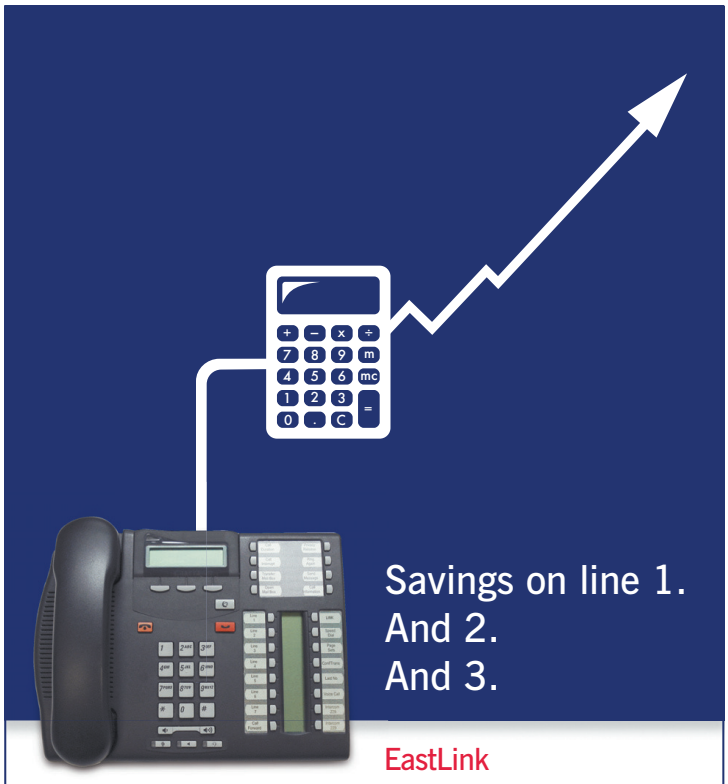
MARKETS China's central bank surprised markets on Thursday by raising the interest rate on its three-month bills for the first time since August, intensifying its grip on liquidity a day after it promised to keep credit growth in check.

While analysts said the move was just a withdrawal of surplus cash in the system, markets feared the worst, taking it as a sign the central bank could be getting ready to use more forceful measures to cool growth and fight inflation.

The move was accompanied by the biggest weekly net drain from money markets in 11 weeks.

The prospect of a tougher policy stance from Beijing sent Chinese shares tumbling and hit a range of commodities, as investors feared that putting the brakes on growth could weaken the appetite of the world's third-largest economy for steel, copper and other resources needed to fuel it.

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Timberwolves tame Lions
The Halifax Lions lost 4-3 to the Miramichi Timberwolves in Maritime Junior A Hockey League play on Thursday at the Forum. The Lions are now 12-13-2. METRO HALIFAX

Sports

EDITOR: DON.MCHOULL@METRONEWS.CA

Mooseheads trade for veteran goaltender

Delmas expected to relieve pressure on Corbeil

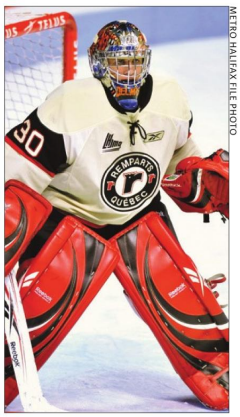
MATTHEW WUEST
matthew.wuest@metronews.ca

As good as Mathieu Corbeil has been, the Halifax Mooseheads don't want to throw him to the wolves.

The Mooseheads, who have seen flashes of greatness from the 18-year-old goaltender, acquired Bedford native Peter Delmas from the Quebec Remparts before Thursday's QMJHL trade deadline to give Corbeil some veteran support.

With Halifax's Atlantic Division rivals such as the Moncton Wildcats, Cape Breton Screaming Eagles and Saint John Sea Dogs sporting frightening second-half rosters, Mooseheads general manager Cam Russell wanted the 19-year-old Delmas to come in and take some of the heat off Corbeil.

The cost — a 2011 sixth-round draft pick — sealed the deal.


METRO HALIFAX FILE PHOTO

Peter Delmas

"First of all, it was a good deal," Russell said. "More important than that … we have a young group on defence and with Corbeil playing pretty much every game, he needs somebody who will be here, challenge him and push him and make him better. Delmas is a great kid to have on our hockey team."

Corbeil, a highly-touted 2010 NHL draft prospect, had started 20 of the past 22 games and has an 8-24 record with a 3.75 goals-against average and a .884 save percentage. Rookie Joel Grondin, 17, struggled in limited backup duty.

Delmas, a second-round pick (61st overall) of the Colorado Avalanche in 2007, has a 15-9 record with a 3.15 goals-against average and a .897 save percentage.

He has battled a hip injury and fell out of favour with Remparts GM Patrick Roy, who had already replaced him with Antoine Tardif.

Russell said Delmas is "cleared and healthy," although Delmas has said he is playing through the injury.

Russell wouldn't quantify how Corbeil and Delmas will split starts but said Corbeil won't be sitting on the bench as he did the second half of last season behind Mark Yetman.

"Whoever's playing better is going to play," Russell said.

"The move was made to help take the load off Corbeil. He's not capable of playing all those games for us."

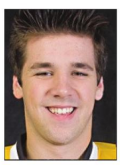
Roster moves

- The Halifax Mooseheads demoted goaltender Joel Grondin and forward Justin Belanger yesterday and will recall forwards Dylan McGuigan, Ryan Nickerson and defenceman Trey Lewis for home games Friday against the Montreal Juniors and Saturday against the Cape Breton Screaming Eagles and a road game Sunday against the Moncton Wildcats. They must submit their final 25-man roster to the QMJHL on Sunday.

Herd have high hopes for newly acquired MacDonald

TRADE The Halifax Mooseheads are hoping Bradley MacDonald brings them offensive punch for years to come.

The Mooseheads acquired the 17-year-old Dartmouth native from the P.E.I. Rocket for 18-year-old centre Guillaume Pelletier just before Thursday's QMJHL trade deadline.


Bradley MacDonald

MacDonald was once pegged as a future second-line centre but has yet to realize that potential since being drafted in the second round (30th overall) by Gatineau in 2008. He has six goals and eight assists in 55 career QMJHL games.

"Bradley has lots of upside," Mooseheads general manager Cam Russell said. "He has speed, work ethic and skill. He's excited to be here, and we hope it works out."

Pelletier, who came to Halifax as part of last December's Logan MacMillan trade, had just one assist and a minus-18 in 29 games and was a frequent healthy scratch.

MacDonald had already been dealt once during the holiday trade period, going from Victoriaville to P.E.I. for Brandon Street.

But the five-foot-10 184-pounder didn't want to play for the Rocket, so the Mooseheads — who are building around the 17-year-old age group — stepped in and took advantage.

"He's not just a role player, he's capable of putting numbers up," Russell said. "But that's up to him."

MATTHEW WUEST/
METRO HALIFAX

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Guatemala.....10.9 ¢
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Halifax Rainmen Preview

Rainmen revamp roster

After controversial, disappointing season squad adds 11 newcomers

MATTHEW WUEST
matthew.wuest@metronews.ca

The Halifax Rainmen did some housecleaning in the off-season and are ready to leave the drama behind.

The Rainmen, who endured a controversy-filled first season in the Premier Basketball League, have since sent nine players packing and are eager to unveil their new roster in their home-opener on Sunday at 2 p.m. at the Metro Centre.

Lowlights of 2009 included the suspension of star forward Eric Crookshank, the mid-season firing of head coach Rick Lewis, and disgruntled former NCAA star SirValiant Brown publicly slamming management after his release. It all added up to a 12-8 record and a non-playoff finish.

"Last year there were a lot of negative attitudes," said Crookshank, the only Rainmen player who has been around since the franchise launched in 2007. "This year, everybody's positive. We're patting each other on the back. 'Tony, keep shooting the ball. Des, keep shooting the ball.' That kind of thing."

Crookshank, guard Tony Bennett and veteran forward John Strickland are the only returning players from last season, while 11 newcomers grace the revamped roster.

Bennett, a lightning-quick guard, is the team's offensive engine, while Crookshank will again be a key scorer and rebounder. Point guard Gary Ervin, sharpshooting small forward Desmond Ferguson and six-foot-10 post Gordon Malone are key signings brought in to complement them, as are this week's new additions Gregory Plummer and Cory Underwood.

But it's a commitment to defence — enforced by head coach Les Berry, who went 6-3 after taking over last season — that Crookshank said will help Halifax contend.

"My first year here under Rick Lewis, no offence to him, defence just wasn't a priority," Crookshank said. "With Les, if you're not playing defence, you're not gonna play."

The 31-year-old Crookshank said he now takes "pride in playing defence — and I'm getting more dunks, too."

Owner Andre Levingston worked hard in the off-season to assemble a more well-balanced roster than last year's, which was overloaded with score-first types.

"He's done a great job of putting guys together who can do various jobs on the court," the 32-year-old Ferguson said. "Now we've just got to put the pieces of the puzzle together."


RYAN TAPLIN/METRO HALIFAX

Rainmen forward Eric Crookshank will be a key scorer for the team but takes pride in his defence.

Home schedule

- Sunday, Jan. 10, 2 p.m. Quebec at Halifax
- Saturday, Jan. 16, 7 p.m. Vermont at Halifax
- Friday, Jan. 22, 7 p.m. Oklahoma at Halifax
- Sunday, Jan. 31, 2 p.m. Rochester at Halifax
- Sunday, Feb. 7, 2 p.m. Buffalo at Halifax
- Sunday, Feb. 14, 4 p.m. Manchester at Halifax
- Saturday, Feb. 20, 7 p.m. Maryland at Halifax
- Friday, Feb. 26, 7 p.m. Puerto Rico at Halifax
- Sunday, March 21, 2 p.m. Quebec at Halifax
- Saturday, March 27, 7 p.m. Oklahoma at Halifax

Defensive play leads to first victory

Halifax 90 **Quebec** 80

PBL The Halifax Rainmen used a late surge to make sure they didn't dig themselves into a big early-season hole.

The Rainmen went on a 16-6 run with about six minutes to go to break open a close game and post a 90-80 victory over the Quebec Kebs at the University of Laval on Thursday night, evening their Premier Basketball League record at 1-1.

A stellar defensive effort, meanwhile, helped Halifax set a franchise-low for points allowed in a PBL game.

"Defensively, we played hard," said Rainmen head coach Les Berry. "Coming down the stretch, we got some big stops."

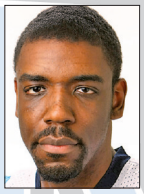
Tony Bennett and Desmond Ferguson led the Rainmen with 14 points apiece, while Gordon Malone added 13. Gregory Plummer and Gary Ervin each chipped in with 10 points.

Eric Crookshank had just six points but turned in a monster 20-rebound effort and earned a rave review from Berry.

"This is the best basketball I've seen the kid play," Berry said. "Really solid defence and he's really getting after it on the glass."

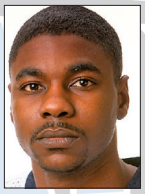
MATTHEW WUEST/METRO HALIFAX

43 Shagari Alleyne



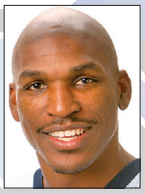
NICKNAME: Big Gari
POSITION: Centre
HEIGHT: 7-3
AGE: 25
HOMETOWN: Bronx, N.Y.

8 Tony Bennett



NICKNAME: T.B.
POSITION: Guard
HEIGHT: 6-0
AGE: 25
HOMETOWN: Chicago

20 Eric Crookshank



NICKNAME: Air Canada
POSITION: Forward
HEIGHT: 6-8
AGE: 31
HOMETOWN: Oakland, Calif.

28 Adris DeLeon



NICKNAME: Too Hard To Guard
POSITION: Point Guard
HEIGHT: 6-0
AGE: 25
HOMETOWN: New York City

3 Gary Ervin



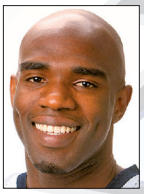
NICKNAME: G-Smooth
POSITION: Point Guard
HEIGHT: 6-1
AGE: 26
HOMETOWN: Brooklyn, N.Y.

5 Desmond Ferguson



NICKNAME: Moneyball
POSITION: Small Forward
HEIGHT: 6-7
AGE: 32
HOMETOWN: Lansing, Mich.

6 Garry Gallimore



NICKNAME: None
POSITION: Guard
HEIGHT: 6-2
AGE: 25
HOMETOWN: Ottawa

42 Gordon Malone



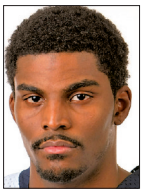
NICKNAME: Gordy for 40
POSITION: Centre
HEIGHT: 6-11
AGE: 35
HOMETOWN: Brooklyn, N.Y.

11 Devon Norris



NICKNAME: Chuck
POSITION: Guard
HEIGHT: 6-3
AGE: 23
HOMETOWN: Upper Tantallon

12 Gregory Plummer



NICKNAME: None
POSITION: Small Forward
HEIGHT: 6-4
AGE: 25
HOMETOWN: Brooklyn, N.Y.

23 Jevohn Shepherd



NICKNAME: Shep
POSITION: Small Forward
HEIGHT: 6-5
AGE: 23
HOMETOWN: Toronto

1 Lonnell Shuler-Jones



NICKNAME: L.A.
POSITION: Point Guard
HEIGHT: 6-2
AGE: 24
HOMETOWN: Brooklyn, N.Y.

45 John Strickland



NICKNAME: The Franchise
POSITION: Forward
HEIGHT: 6-8
AGE: 37
HOMETOWN: Brooklyn, N.Y.

21 Cory Underwood



NICKNAME: Undertaker
POSITION: Centre
HEIGHT: 6-10
AGE: 29
HOMETOWN: Queens, N.Y.

Omischl sits out
Steve Omischl will sit out this weekend's World Cup freestyle aerials event after consulting with team doctors following a mild concussion he suffered during a training session last week. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Vancouver Games

EDITOR: DON.MCHOULL@METRONEWS.CA

Expectations will be massive for Canadians



At the World Junior hockey final this week we saw a glimpse of the kind of expectations Canadian athletes will face at the rapidly approaching home Olympics.

Pressure is a demon that needs to be dealt with.

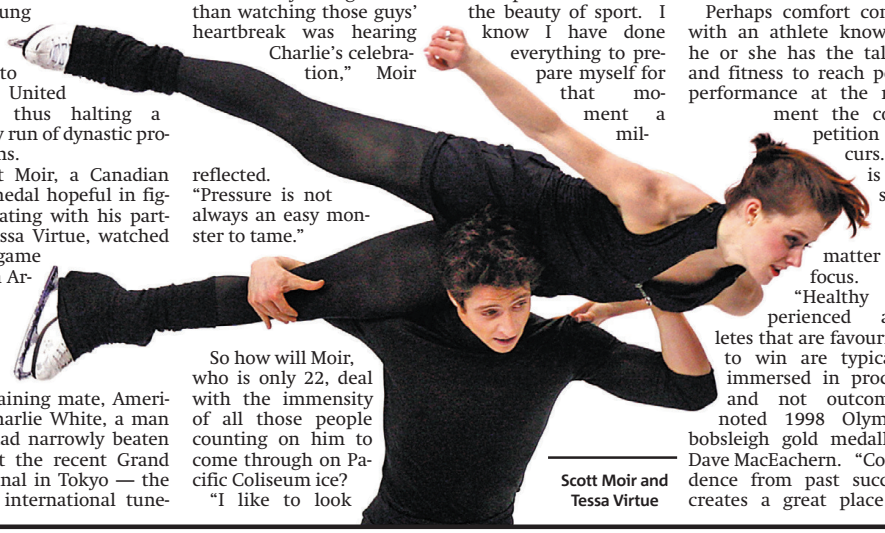
Real or imagined, anytime a significant number of Canadians wrap themselves in the flag and attach themselves to the fortunes of athletes who wear the Maple Leaf, huge pressure ensues. You could see it tattooed on the faces of the young men who fell to the United States thus halting a hockey run of dynastic proportions.

Scott Moir, a Canadian gold medal hopeful in figure skating with his partner Tessa Virtue, watched the game in Ann Arbor, Mich., beside his rival and training mate, American Charlie White, a man who had narrowly beaten him at the recent Grand Prix Final in Tokyo — the major international tune-up prior to the Olympics.

"The only thing worse than watching those guys' heartbreak was hearing Charlie's celebration," Moir reflected. "Pressure is not always an easy monster to tame."

So how will Moir, who is only 22, deal with the immensity of all those people counting on him to come through on Pacific Coliseum ice?

"I like to look the beast right in the eye," Moir explained. "That's the beauty of sport. I know I have done everything to prepare myself for that moment a million times over and I must execute. I will execute!"


Scott Moir and Tessa Virtue

Perhaps comfort comes with an athlete knowing he or she has the talent and fitness to reach peak performance at the moment the competition occurs. It is also a matter of focus.

"Healthy experienced athletes that are favourites to win are typically immersed in process and not outcome," noted 1998 Olympic bobsleigh gold medallist, Dave MacEachern. "Confidence from past success creates a great place to hide when the heat gets turned up at big events."

For the more than 200 athletes who will fly Canadian colours at home in Vancouver and Whistler there is another consideration. As it was with the junior hockey team in Saskatoon, somebody from another country might be better qualified to win.

"For the record, I think the Canadian juniors lost to a team with superior speed and defence, not because of pressure," MacEachern said.

Sometimes the pressure monster isn't the one Olympians should fear most.

Scott Russell is the Host of CBC Sports Weekend seen Saturday afternoons. He has covered professional and amateur sports including nine Olympic games and numerous world championships.

NFLer goes from blocks to rocks



"I look forward to going to the Olympics and being an honorary captain (of the U.S. men's curling team)." Vernon Davis

Vernon Davis is headed to his first Pro Bowl and his first Olympics, too.

The star San Francisco 49ers tight end will be an honorary captain for the U.S. men's curling team next month at the Vancouver Olympics. The opportunity came about after Davis gave curling a try in November and loved it.

"I'm excited for the opportunity. It's quite an honour," Davis said Thursday. "I look forward to going to the Olympics and being an honorary captain. And I look forward to learning more and meeting those guys and finding out what their practice is like."

Davis, who last Sunday tied Antonio Gates' NFL record for touchdowns by a tight end with 13, shot several curling public service announcements this week.

"I got a chance to really show my personality, and they let me do what I wanted at the end. I had a blast with it," Davis said.

Those PSAs will be used at curling clubs around the country to help promote the sport's growth.

Canada boasts about one million curlers, to only around 15,000 in the United States — mostly in the Midwest. The number of club curlers around the U.S. has grown significantly since the 2006 Turin Olympics, and the hope is there will be another boom after these Winter Olympics.

"We're definitely honoured to have someone of his talent stepping out of his normal space on the football field to help support the sport of curling," Rick Patzke, USA Curling's chief operating officer, said in a phone interview Thursday. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

For more about the Olympics, visit: metronews.ca

Eddie the Eagle carries torch in Winnipeg

Former Olympic folk hero Eddie (the Eagle) Edwards flew down Winnipeg streets this morning.

The British ski jumper who gained a cult following during the 1988 Calgary Olympics — despite coming in dead last — carried the torch for several blocks in frigid weather.

People honked their horns and shouted encouragement as Edwards passed.

Edwards says carrying the torch was "almost as good" as jumping in Calgary more than two decades ago. THE CANADIAN PRESS


DAVID LIPNOWSKI/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Torchbearer Eddie Edwards smiles for media as he passes along the Olympic flame to Jennine Thaddeus after he finished carrying the Olympic flame in Winnipeg on Thursday.

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Visit Metronews.ca/movies to get showtimes, read reviews and watch trailers.

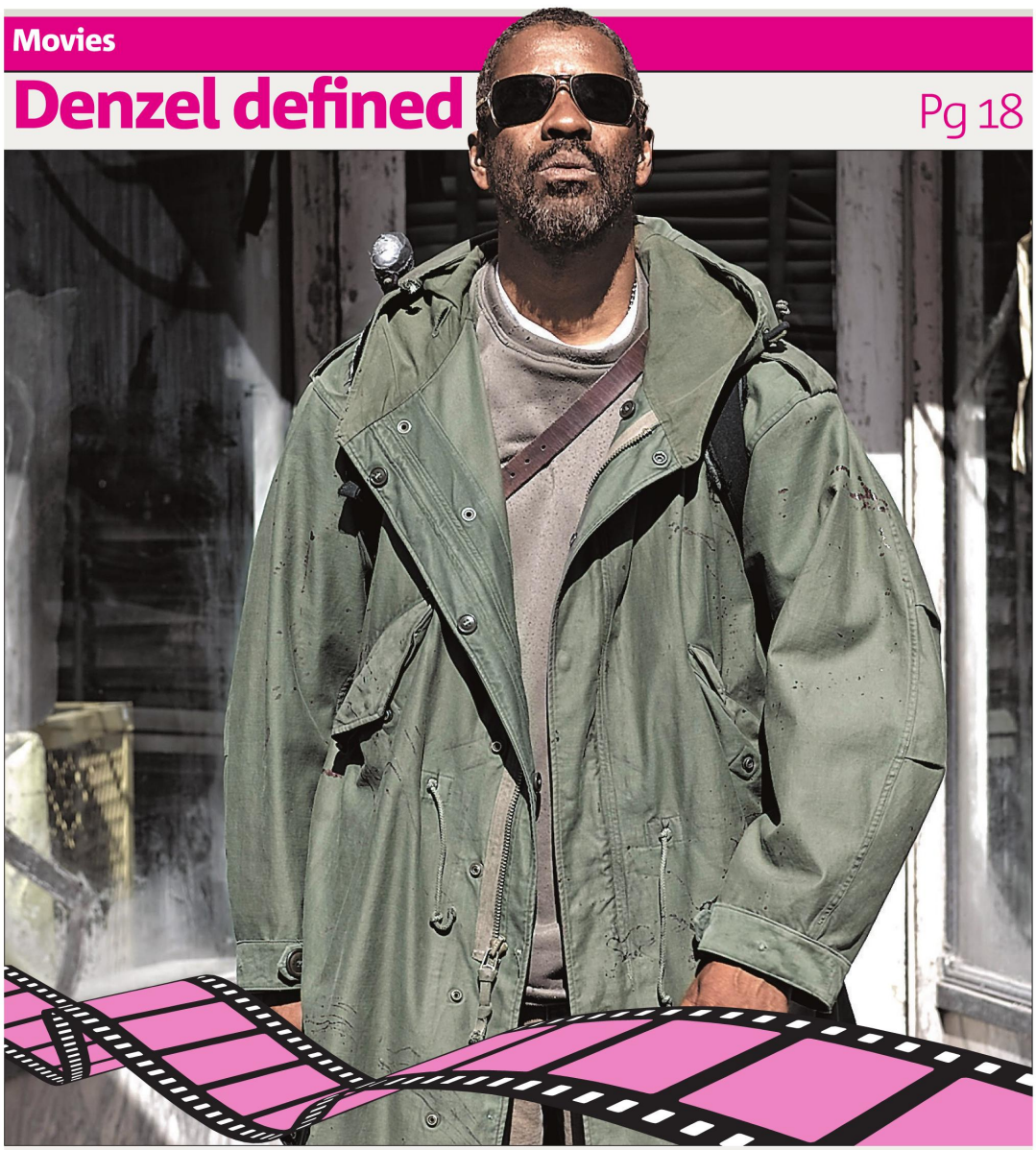
Movies&Entertainment

EDITOR: DEAN.LISK@METRONEWS.CA

Movies

Denzel defined

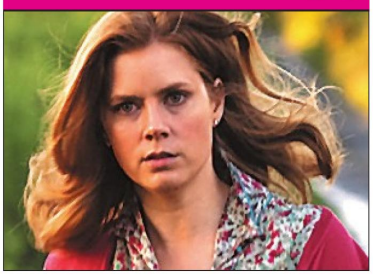
Pg 18



Oscar-winning actor Denzel Washington is a force to be reckoned with in his new action flick, The Book of Eli.

Movies

Pg 19



Oscar-nominated Amy Adams is back with Leap Year.

Music

Pg 22



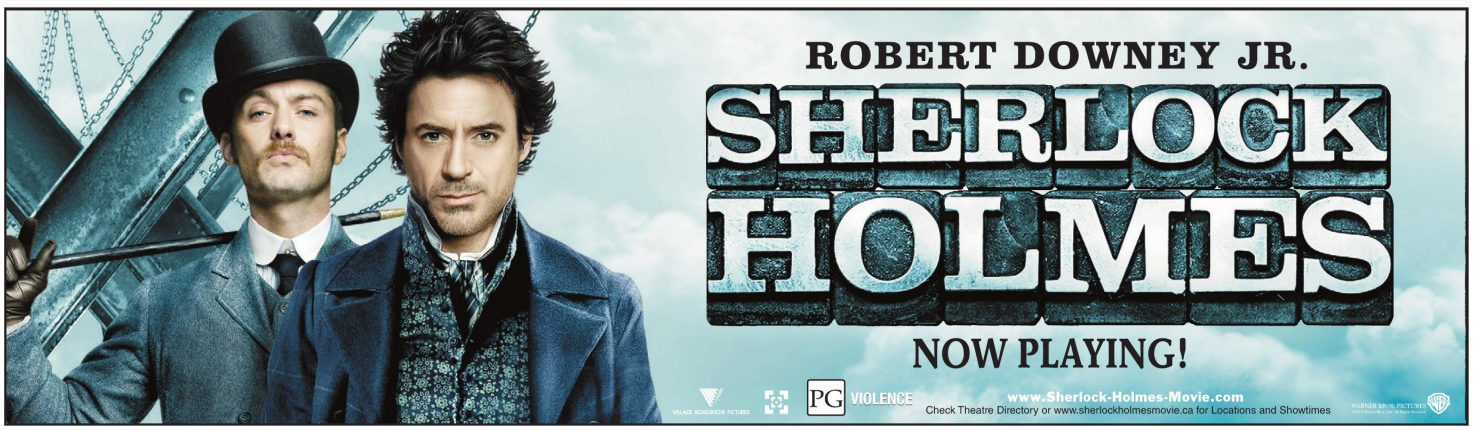
Former Degrassi star Drake sets up for big splash in '10.

Television

Pg 25



The Kids in the Hall are back and bigger than ever.



At a glance
Leap Year ⊕⊕, Youth in Revolt ⊕⊕⊕½, Daybreakers ⊕⊕⊕

Movies

MOVIES EDITOR: KUMAR.SAHA@METRONEWS.CA

⊕⊕⊕⊕⊕ A CLASSIC; ⊕⊕⊕⊕ EXCELLENT; ⊕⊕⊕ GOOD; ⊕⊕ FAIR; ⊕ POOR

Denzel gets tough in Book of Eli

Movie **feature**

STEVE GOW
for Metro Canada

On the web

- For movie photos, trailers and screen times visit metronews.ca/movies.



Denzel Washington sharpened his combat skills for his latest film, The Book of Eli. It is in theatres next week.

Although his thriller follows the current trend of post-apocalyptic tales, don't draw comparisons between futuristic dystopian dramas like The Road and Denzel Washington's latest film, The Book of Eli.

Not directly to Mr. Washington anyhow.

"Actually (The Road) was supposed to come out a year ago," defended the legendary actor with a chuckle during a recent interview. "I wouldn't categorize (The Book of Eli). (People) have a desire to do that so they say 'post-apocalyptic action' but I think a spiritual film. That's what's interesting about it, I think it's a lot of things."

The Book of Eli hits theatres next week

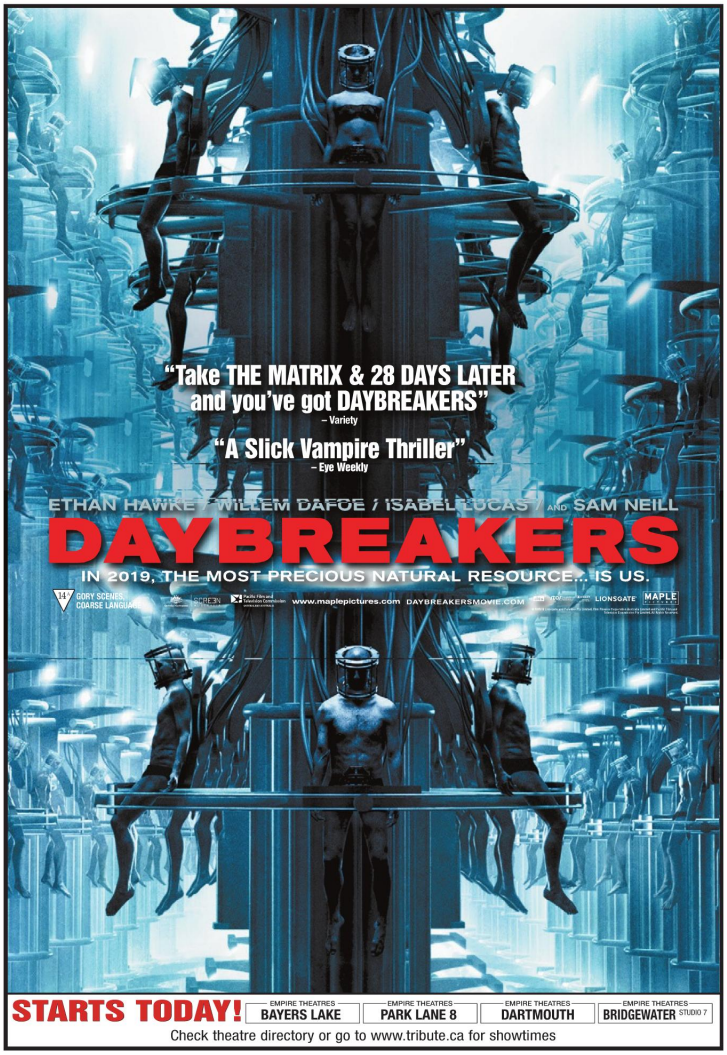
Whatever it is, The Book of Eli marks not just the Oscar winner's latest foray into the action genre but it's also one of the 55-year old actor's most strenuous roles — playing a fist-fighting drifter who travels across desolate badlands protecting a cherished book from weapon-wielding thieves and criminals.

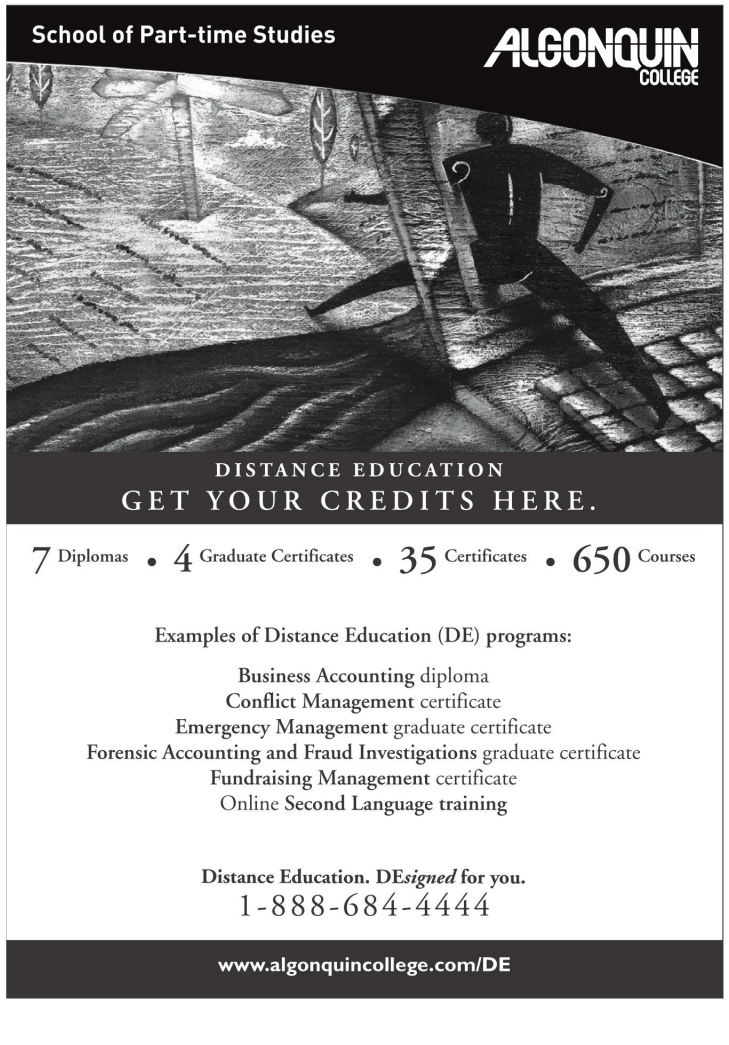
"I have a great job in that I get to step into all these different worlds and so I really enjoyed it. I mean I really need to continue to do that kind of work and stretch — stretching is key at my age," said Washington. "Life is short, life's no joke … it makes me want for rich experiences and I thought that this was a very unusual part to play and it allowed me to dabble in the spiritual world and the martial arts world."

One of the ways in which Washington did stretch was sharpening his combat skills. But while tutoring under such martial artists as Bruce Lee-disciple Dan Inosanto helped him prepare for the part, the boxing experience he gained from his Oscar-nominated role in 1999's The Hurricane also proved an additional benefit.

"Because of boxing, I was comfortable with fighting — although you do some things in martial arts that are completely the opposite of boxing," said the actor insisting what he mainly learned from martial arts was to "leave people alone" because you never know who they really are — a moral that applies to the film itself.

"The littlest, most unassuming person (can be) a killer," Washington insisted.





Tom not starring with Taylor
Tom Cruise will not be costarring in the forthcoming Taylor Lautner action flick Northern Lights. The film is about a young aerobatics pilot and will be directed by John Moore (Max Payne). Production begins this April in Louisiana. EW.COM

Movies

MOVIES EDITOR: KUMAR.SAHA@METRONEWS.CA

●●●●● A CLASSIC; ●●●● EXCELLENT; ●●● GOOD; ●● FAIR; ● POOR

Refreshing revamp of vampires

Daybreakers
Director: The Spierig Brothers
Stars: Ethan Hawke, Willem Dafoe
Classification: STC
Rating: ●●●

CHRIS ALEXANDER
for Metro Canada


Ethan Hawke doesn't suck in the vampire movie Daybreakers.

Cinematic vampires are often depicted as either romantic, tragic immortals drifting through time, slave to their vice, or as slobbering, blood starved wraiths; both camps are present in Daybreakers, the latest horror movie from Aussie filmmakers The Spierig Brothers (Undead).

But, this movie is a mixed (body) bag, trying to have it all ways and ultimately biting off more than it can comfortably chew.

In an after dark world owned by plague carrying vampires, Ethan Hawke plays an undead hematologist with a conscience, trying to cure his brethren while sneering at their practice of farming what is left of the human race.

When, after a chance encounter saving a pack of persecuted mortals, he becomes embroiled in a plot to overthrow the fanged powers that be, he discovers that by exposing oneself to direct sunlight and bursting into flames — or "daybreaking" — vampirism can be conquered.

Along with resistance leader and reformed ghoul Elvis (the ubiquitous Willem Dafoe), his first order of business is to lock horns with the diabolical head of his pharmaceutical employer (Sam Neill, whose welcome onscreen presence is squandered here in a thankless role that requires him to shuffle papers and look concerned) and heal the world without the aid of human experiments. Meanwhile, a pack of blood starved "have-not" vamps are turning into bat like monsters, hell bent on feeding on man and ghoul alike.

Boasting a great pulpy premise, a nifty neo-noir look and a handful of jaw dropping, brilliantly revolting set pieces, Daybreakers has all its ducks in the right place.

It's a real shame then, when after a fantastic first half hour, the film falls apart, settling into conventional, tedious Underworld/Matrix dystopian cliché garble and worse, attempting to elicit big emotional responses to half baked characters and silly, heavy handed allegorical situations.

Brilliant prosthetic special effects however and in a genre where remakes and sequels are the order of the day, Daybreakers is refreshingly original.

• For Daybreakers photos, a trailer and screen times visit metronews.ca/movies

Adams' worst film

Leap Year
Director: Anand Tucker
Stars: Amy Adams, Matthew Goode, John Lithgow
Classification: STC
Rating: ●●

PHIL BROWN
for Metro Canada

REVIEW It's common knowledge that Amy Adams is quite a talented actress. Some might point to her Oscar nominations as proof, but the best evidence of her skills just might be Leap Year.

It's not that Leap Year is Adams' best film, in fact it's probably her worst. It's just that her character is so shrill, shallow, and one-dimensional that she should be loathsome.

Yet Adams somehow makes you care about the character by fully committing.

Too bad that Leap Year's screenplay is so tired and drawn out that no actress could possibly save it.

Amy Adams stars as a fast talking materialistic Bostonian obsessed with getting the right apartment and getting engaged.

When her long-term boyfriend goes on a trip to Dublin in late February, Adams learns of an Irish tradition in which women propose to men on leap year and decides to fly out to pop the question.

Of course, she gets delayed and is forced to ask a rugged small town Irish man (Matthew Goode) to take her to Dublin.

Throw in a supporting cast of Irish stereotypes, awkward pacing, and a completely unmotivated love story and you've got a big ol' mess of a movie. Adams and Goode do make a cute couple, but it all goes to waste on a story and jokes that were out of date decades ago.

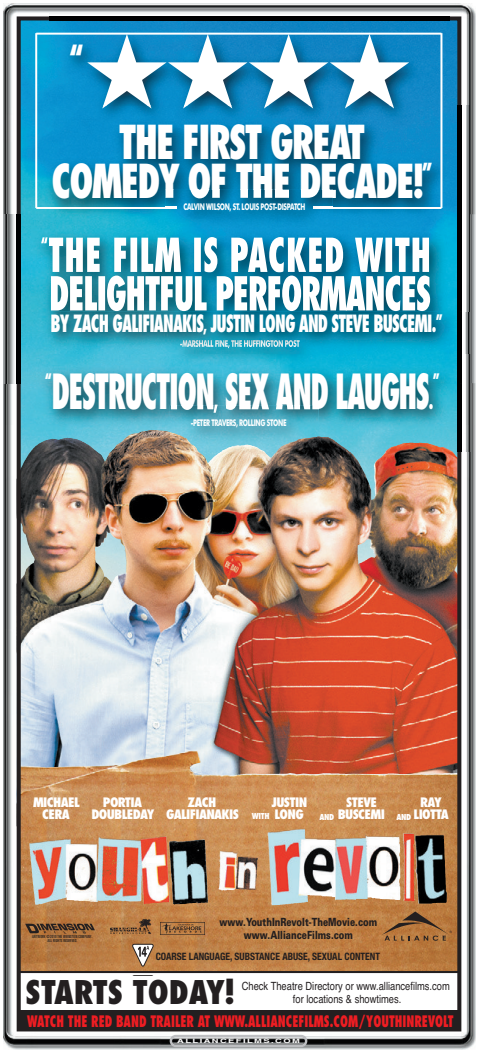
• For Leap Year photos, a trailer and screen times visit metronews.ca/movies

Director hints at government interference

FILM A Chinese director whose movie was pulled from an American film festival as part of a boycott over the screening of a documentary about the Dalai Lama said Thursday he accepted the decision — but hinted he was under pressure to toe the government line.

The Palm Springs International Film Festival said in a statement posted on its Web site Wednesday that Chinese film authorities pulled Lu Chuan's City of Life and Death and the comedy Quick, Quick, Slow from the event. Organizers said the Chinese acted after they refused Beijing's request they drop the documentary The Sun Behind the Clouds: Tibet's Struggle for Freedom.China considers the Dalai Lama a "splittist" seeking formal independence for Tibet. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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ScarJo to hit Broadway

Starting Jan. 24, Scarlett Johansson and Broadway vet Liev Schreiber will take to Broadway's stage in Arthur Miller's 1955 play, A View From the Bridge. Schreiber plays Eddie Carbone, a longshoreman from Brooklyn obsessed with his niece, played by Johansson. EW.COM

Reel Time

●●●●● A CLASSIC; ●●●● EXCELLENT; ●●● GOOD; ●● FAIR; ● POOR

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metro

Cera's alter ego a step forward

Youth In Revolt

Director: Miguel Arteta
Stars: Michael Cera, Fred Willard
Classification: STC
Rating: ●●●½

RICHARD CROUSE
for Metro Canada



Michael Cera, right, expands his range in Youth In Revolt.

Youth in Revolt is the new Ferris Bueller's Day Off. It's a film about the benefits of behaving badly and, like the famous 1986 John Hughes movie, it is headlined by an actor who brings charm and wit to the role of the rebel.

Hoodie heartthrob Michael Cera plays fourteen-year-old Nick Twisp, a mild mannered collection of raging hormones and quirky personality traits. He loves Sinatra and foreign films. When his family relocated to a Christian trailer park he meets his dream girl, Sheeni Saunders (Portia Doubleday), a similarly anachronistic teenager with a taste for anything French and a dream of being swept off her feet by a bad boy named Francois.

When circumstance steps in to keep them apart he (with the help of an imaginary friend named Francois Dillinger) reverses his goody-two-shoes image and becomes a rebel with a cause — he wants to impress her.

Cera has a corner on the awkward coming-of-age movie, and as Twisp he doesn't do anything he didn't do in Juno or Superbad, but he's charming and easy to watch. His work takes on a different dimension, however, when he slips into alter ego mode.

As the mustachioed Francois he's a refugee from a Belmondo film, equipped with a cigarette, and too tight white trousers. It's not often that an actor gets to show his range playing two characters in one film, but this is a step forward for Cera, who has been locked into the wisecracking virgin stereotype since he left the small screen's Arrested Development, grew some peach fuzz and started chasing girls on the big screen.

• For Youth In Revolt photos, a trailer and screen times visit metronews.ca/movies



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This week's new releases are highlighted in pink.

Screen Times

THESE PAGES COVER MOVIE START TIMES FROM FRI., JAN. 8 TO THURS., JAN. 14. TIMES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE. COMPLETE LISTINGS ARE ALSO AVAILABLE AT METRONEWS.CA/MOVIES.

HALIFAX

BAYERS LAKE
190 Chain Lake Dr., Bayers Lake
902-876-4800

Alvin and the Chipmunks: The Squeakquel (G) Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seating Fri 12:30-12:45-3:15-3:30-6:20-8:45 Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seating Sat-Sun 11:55-12:30-3:15-3:30-6:20-8:45 Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 12:55-1:10-3:15-3:30-6:20-8:45
Avatar 3D (PG) Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seating Fri 12:30-1-4:20-6:45-8:10:20 Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seating Sat-Sun 11:30-12:30-3:10-4:20-6:45-8:10:20 Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 1-1:30-4:40-5:15-8:30-9
The Blind Side (PG) Dolby Stereo Fri-Thu 12:10-3:30-6:40-9:40
Daybreakers (14) Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 12:35-3:45-7:15-10:05
Did You Hear About the Morgans? (PG) Dolby Stereo, No Passes Fri-Thu 12:40-3:50-6:50-9:45
The Imaginarium of Doctor Parnassus (PG) Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seating Fri-Sun 12:30-3:45-6:40-9:45 Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 12:45-3:45-6:40-9:45
Invictus (PG) Dolby Stereo Fri-Thu 9:40
It's Complicated (PG) Dolby Stereo Fri-Sun 12:25-3:40-6:50-9:40 Dolby Stereo Mon-Tue 12:50-3:40-6:50-9:40 Dolby Stereo Wed 3:40-6:50-9:40 Dolby Stereo Thu 12:50-3:40-6:50-9:40
Leap Year (PG) Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 1-3:45-7:10-9:50
Nine (STC) Dolby Stereo Fri-Mon 12:20-3:20-7:10-10:05 Dolby Stereo Tue 12:20-3:20-7:10-10:05 Dolby Stereo Wed-Thu 12:20-3:20-7:10-10:05
Precious: Based on the Novel ``Push'' by Sapphire (14) Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 7:10-9:55
The Princess and the Frog (G) Dolby Stereo Fri 12:30-3-6:45 Dolby Stereo Sat-Sun 12:05-3-6:45 Dolby Stereo Mon-Thu 1:05-3-6:45
Sherlock Holmes (PG) Stadium Seating, Dolby Stereo Fri 12:25-12:35-3:10-3:50-6:30-7:05-9:35-9:55 Stadium Seating, Dolby Stereo Sat-Sun 11:55-12:35-3:10-3:50-6:30-7:05-9:35-9:55 Stadium Seating, Dolby Stereo Mon-Thu 12:35-12:45-3:40-3:50-6:30-7:05-9:35-9:55
The Twilight Saga: New Moon (PG) Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seating Fri 12:10-3-6:15-9:25 Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seating Sat-Sun 11:50-3-6:15-9:25 Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 12:30-3:20-6:15-9:25
Up in the Air (14) Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seating Fri 12:05-3:05-6:30-9:30 Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seating Sat-Sun 11:45-3:05-6:30-9:30 Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 1:05-3:45-6:30-9:30
Youth in Revolt (STC) Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 12:40-3:50-6:50-9:45

IMAX
190 Chain Lake Dr., Bayers Lake
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Avatar: An IMAX 3D Experience (PG) Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seating Fri-Sun 12-3:35-7-10:15 Dolby Stereo, Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 12:30-4-7:30

OXFORD THEATRE
6408 Quinpool Rd.
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Braveheart (STC) Sun 1
The Young Victoria (STC) Fri 7-9:30 Sat-Sun 4:30-7-9:30 Mon-Thu 7-9:30

PARK LANE
5657 Spring Garden Rd.
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Avatar (PG) Stadium Seating Fri-Sun 2-7:30 Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 3:35-7:30
Daybreakers (14) Stadium Seating Fri-Sat 1:30-4:10-7:10-9:40-11:50 Stadium Seating Sun 1:30-4:10-7:10-9:40 Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 4:10-7:10-9:40
It's Complicated (PG) Stadium Seating Fri-Sun 1-3:45-6:40-9:20 Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 3:45-6:40-9:20
Leap Year (PG) Stadium Seating Fri-Sat 1:10-3:50-6:30-9-11:30 Stadium Seating Sun 1:10-3:50-6:30-9 Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 3:50-6:30-9
The Metropolitan Opera: Der Rosenkavalier (STC) Spanish Sub-Titles Sat 2
Nine (STC) Stadium Seating Fri 12:45-3:30-6:20-9:10-11:40 Stadium Seating Sat 6:20-9:10-11:40 Stadium Seating Sun 12:45-3:30-6:20-9:10 Stadium Seating Mon-Wed 3:30-6:20-9:10 Stadium Seating Thu 6:20-9:10
Sherlock Holmes (PG) Stadium Seating Fri-Sun 12:50-3:40-6:50-9:50 Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 3:40-6:50-9:50
Up in the Air (14) Stadium Seating Fri 1:40-4:20-7-9:30-11:45 Stadium Seating Sat 7-9:30-11:45 Stadium Seating Sun 1:40-4:20-7-9:30 Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 4:20-7-9:30
Youth in Revolt (STC) Stadium Seating Fri-Sat 1:20-4-7:20-10-11:59 Stadium Seating Sun 1:20-4-7:20-10 Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 4-7:20-10

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Alvin and the Chipmunks: The Squeakquel (G) Stadium Seating Fri 6:50-9 Stadium Seating Sat 1:10-3:20-6:50-9 Stadium Seating Sun 1:10-3:20-6:40-8:50 Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 6:40-8:50
Avatar (PG) Stadium Seating Fri 8 Stadium Seating Sat-Sun 2-8 Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 8
Did You Hear About the Morgans? (PG) Stadium Seating Fri 7 Stadium Seating Sat 4:10-7 Stadium Seating Sun 4:10-6:50 Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 6:50
It's Complicated (PG) Stadium Seating Fri 6:30-9:10 Stadium Seating Sat 1-3:40-6:30-9:10 Stadium Seating Sun 1-3:40-6:20-9 Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 6:20-9
Leap Year (PG) Stadium Seating Fri 7:20-9:40 Stadium Seating Sat 1:20-3:50-7:20-9:40 Stadium Seating Sun 1:20-3:50-6:45-9:10 Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 6:45-9:10
The Princess and the Frog (G) Stadium Seating Sat-Sun 12:55 Stadium Seating Mon-Thu
Sherlock Holmes (PG) Stadium Seating Fri 6:40-9:30 Stadium Seating Sat 12:45-3:30-6:40-9:30 Stadium Seating Sun 12:45-3:30-6:30-9:15 Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 6:30-9:15
Up in the Air (14) Stadium Seating Fri-Sat 9:20 Stadium Seating Sun-Thu 9:10
Youth in Revolt (STC) Stadium Seating Fri 7:10-9:15 Stadium Seating Sat 1:40-4:7:10-9:15 Stadium Seating Sun 1:40-4:7:10-9:20 Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 7:10-9:20

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Alvin and the Chipmunks: The Squeakquel (G) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri 1:15-4-6:40-9:15 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Sat-Sun 11:10-1:40-4-6:40-9:15 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 1:15-4-6:40-9:15
Avatar (PG) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri 12-2-3:45-6:15-7:45-9:55 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Sat 11-12-2:30-3:45-6:15-7:45-9:55 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Sun 11-12-3:45-4:30-7:45-9 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 12-2:45-3:45-4:30-7:45-9
The Blind Side (PG) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Sun 12:15-3:20-6:25-9:35 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 12:15-3:20-6:25-9:25
Daybreakers (14) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Sat 12:50-3:50-7:30-10:15 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Sun-Thu 12:50-3:50-7-9:45
Did You Hear About the Morgans? (PG) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 1:20-4:05-7:10-10:05
Invictus (PG) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri 9:30 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Sat-Sun 10 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 9:30
It's Complicated (PG) Stadium Seating, Dolby Stereo Digital Fri-Thu 12:30-3:30-6:50-9:40
Leap Year (PG) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Sun 1:10-4:15-7:20-10 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 1:10-4:15-7:20-9:50
The Metropolitan Opera: Der Rosenkavalier - Live (STC) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Sat 2
The Princess and the Frog (G) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri 1-3:35-7 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Sat-Sun 11:20-1:45-4:15-7 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 1-3:35-7
Sherlock Holmes (PG) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Sat 12:10-3:25-6:30-9:45 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Sun-Thu 12:10-3:25-6:30-9:35
Up in the Air (14) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri 12:40-3:40-7:05-10:10 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Sat 10:10 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Sun-Thu 12:40-3:40-7:05-10
Youth in Revolt (STC) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Sat 1:30-4:25-7:15-10:20 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Sun-Thu 1:30-4:25-7:15-9:55

TRURO

TRURO
20 Treaty Trail, Millbrook
902-895-8020

Alvin and the Chipmunks: The Squeakquel (G) Stadium Seating Fri 6:45-9 Stadium Seating Sat 2-6:45-9 Stadium Seating Sun 2-6:45-8:55 Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 6:45-8:55
Avatar (PG) Stadium Seating Fri 7:30 Stadium Seating Sat 2:30-7:30 Stadium Seating Sun 2:30-7 Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 7
Daybreakers (14) Stadium Seating Fri 7:10-9:25 Stadium Seating Sat 2:40-7:10-9:25 Stadium Seating Sun 2:40-6:40-8:50 Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 6:40-8:50
Did You Hear About the Morgans? (PG) Stadium Seating Fri 7 Stadium Seating Sat 3-7 Stadium Seating Sun 3-6:20 Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 6:20
It's Complicated (PG) Stadium Seating Fri 6:40-9:30 Stadium Seating Sat 2:20-6:40-9:30 Stadium Seating Sun 2:20-6:10-8:45 Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 6:10-8:45
Leap Year (PG) Stadium Seating Fri 7:20-9:45 Stadium Seating Sat 2:50-7:20-9:45 Stadium Seating Sun 2:50-6:30-9 Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 6:30-9
Sherlock Holmes (PG) Stadium Seating Fri 6:30-9:20 Stadium Seating Sat 2:10-6:30-9:20 Stadium Seating Sun 2:10-6-8:40 Stadium Seating Mon-Thu 6-8:40
Up in the Air (14) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Sat 9:40 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Sun-Thu 8:35

BRIDGEWATER

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Alvin and the Chipmunks: The Squeakquel (G) Fri 6:30-8:45 Sat 2-6:30-8:45 Sun 2-5:45-8 Mon-Thu 5:45-8
Avatar (PG) Fri 7:30 Sat 2:10-7:30 Sun 2:10-6:45 Mon-Thu 6:45
Daybreakers (14) Fri 7:15-9:40 Sat 2:05-7:15-9:40 Sun 2:05-6:30-8:55 Mon-Thu 6:30-8:55
It's Complicated (PG) Fri 7-9:45 Sat 2:25-7-9:45 Sun 2:25-6:15-9 Mon-Thu 6:15-9
Leap Year (PG) Fri 6:50-9:15 Sat 2:20-6:50-9:15 Sun 2:20-6:05-8:30 Mon-Thu 6:05-8:30
Sherlock Holmes (PG) Fri 6:45-9:35 Sat 2:30-6:45-9:35 Sun 2:30-6-8:50 Mon-Thu 6-8:50
Youth in Revolt (STC) Fri 7:10-9:25 Sat 2:45-7:10-9:25 Sun 2:45-6:25-8:40 Mon-Thu 6:25-8:40

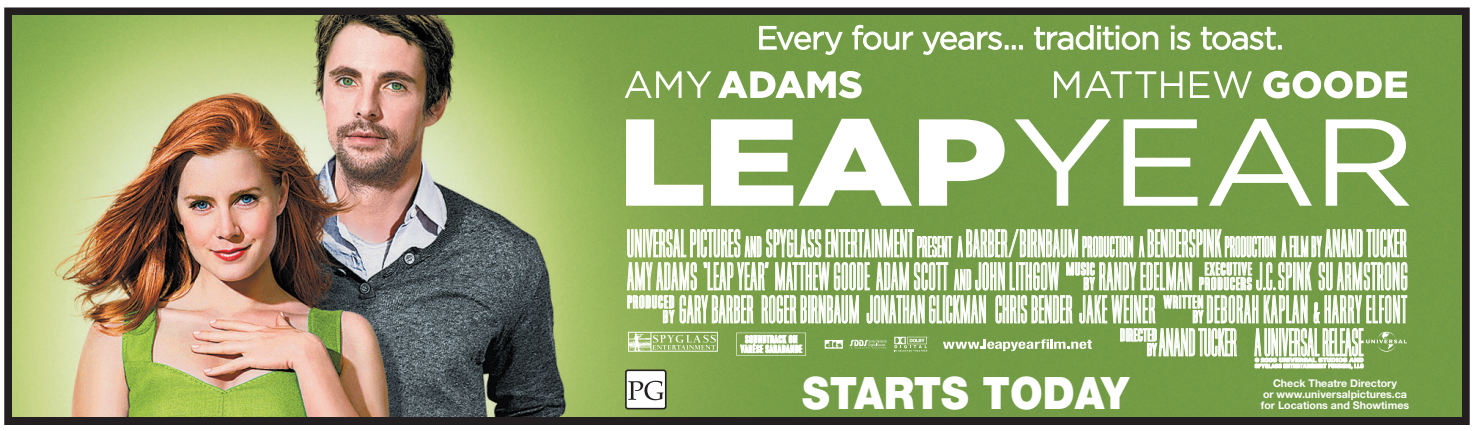
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Robert Downey Jr. and Jude Law star in Sherlock Holmes.





Billboard's top-selling albums
1. I Dreamed A Dream, Susan Boyle; 2. The Fame, Lady Gaga; 3. The Element of Freedom, Alicia Keys; 4. Stronger With Each Tear, Mary J. Blige; 5. Fearless, Taylor Swift. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Music

What to expect in 2010

Drake, Soundgarden among artists poised to make headlines

BRYAN BORZYKOWKI
for Metro Canada

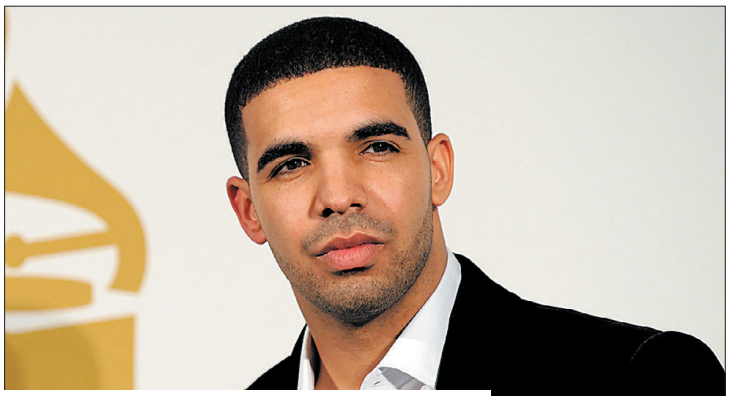
A lot happened in the music world over the last 12 months, but 2010 is shaping up to be an even more eventful year.

It could be a big year for both downloading and record sales, while one Canadian rapper is poised to become the biggest artist in the world. Here are a few things you can expect in 2010:

Michael Jackson's music: While Michael Jackson sold plenty of albums in 2009, his estate is sitting on an even larger goldmine. It's been reported that the King of Pop recorded about 100 songs that haven't been released. If we've learned anything from the myriad musicians who've met untimely deaths, it's that anything released posthumously sells extremely well. If this treasure trove of tunes really exists, the songs will likely be released over the next several years, but there's no doubt something will come out in 2010 — and sales will be through the roof.

Spotify: If you haven't heard of Spotify, you will soon. It's currently the most talked about music file sharing website on the planet and will likely be coming to Canada sometime this year. The site allows people to find any song they want and stream high-quality music. It's like Napster, but without the downloading. And it doesn't cost a cent. Users can pay for an ad-free version of the site, but they don't have to. It's already available overseas, but once it hits North American shores, iTunes can kiss its near-monopoly on digital music goodbye.

Soundgarden reunion: As exciting as the Stone Temple Pilots reunion was, every grunge loving 20-something has really been waiting for Soundgarden to re-form. Well, they got their wish — the band announced that, after 12 years apart, they will play some dates this year, though when or where has yet to be confirmed.





Toronto rapper Drake, above, could very well become an international star this year, while K'Naan, left, is one of several musicians scheduled to play the Vancouver Olympics.

Olympics: The Olympics are, obviously, all about the athletes. But it's the many musicians who will be playing various shows around Vancouver and Whistler who will really make attending the games worthwhile. The list of performers is extensive, but it includes K'Naan, Bell Orchestre, Hawksley Workman, Broken Social Scene and Tegan and Sara.

Drake: Toronto wonder boy Drake had a stellar 2009, but with his first studio full-length hitting shelves in March he's about to become a bona fide super star. The former Degrassi actor teams up with Jay-Z on parts of Thank Me Later and with the cred that being Lil Wayne's pet project brings, there's no way Drake can't have a remarkable 2010.



Vampire Weekend's new album Contra will be out next week.

New music preview

SoundCheck



As we try to come to a consensus on how to pronounce this year ("Twenty-ten?" "Two thousand and ten?"), here's a fast preview of some of the music we'll see in the coming months.

January-February: Hipster bloggers are most interested in Vampire Weekend's second album, Contra (Tuesday). Meanwhile, Finnish melodic metal band HIM is hoping that their new album Screamworks: Love in Theory and Practice (Feb 9) will be their North American breakthrough.

March: I'm most interested in Broken Bells, a collaboration between Danger Mouse (Gnarls Barkley, Beck, Gorillaz) and James Mercer of the Shins (March 9). Crash Karma, Canada's supergroup (featuring ex members of OLP, I Mother Earth and the Tea Party) had a top ten single in Awake before (a) they had a record deal; and (b) before they had an album. I've heard a chunk of this stuff and it's very good. A debut album will be out March 10. My Chemical Romance will have an as-yet-untitled album in stores March 30. Watch for a single in the coming weeks.

April: The Deftones have two albums in the pipeline, one of which is called Eros, but it's been shelved since a car accident sent bass player Chi Cheng into a coma. A new Chi-less CD — no title yet — is on the schedule for April 26.

May: Broken Social Scene has promised to release a new CD.

The rest: Now that Adam Yauch's cancer is under control, the Beastie Boys will finally get around to releasing Hot Sauce Committee Part II in the coming months ... I'm convinced there will be a new U2 studio album before the next leg of the U2:360 tour kicks off in the spring. Rumours are it'll be called Songs of Ascent, but there's no indication on what approach they've taken ... Gaslight Anthem will follow up the excellent The '59 Sound with a new record in June ... There should be a second album from Jack White and the Dead Weather this summer ... Linkin Park is readying their fourth album for release this fall ... MGMT's second album will be called Congratulations and should be out in the third quarter ... Finger 11 is working on their sixth album for release before the end of the year ... A new STP record? Believe it ... The Strokes? Apparently, but we don't know when.

Also coming in 2010: Godsmack, Gorillaz, Jimmy Eat World, Kid Rock and Seether.

The Ongoing History Of New Music can be heard on stations across Canada. Read more at ongoinghistory.com and exploremusic.com

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Taylor Swift has year's top album

MUSIC Susan Boyle put up a strong challenge but Taylor Swift ended 2009 with the year's bestselling album.

Nielsen SoundScan, which tracks the nation's album sales, says Swift's Fearless sold 3.2 million copies last year. It was released in late 2008. Boyle's I Dreamed a Dream sold 3.1 million copies — and it only came out in late November. Michael Jackson's Number Ones was No. 3 with 2.3 million sold.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Avril Lavigne will be Idol judge
Newly single Avril Lavigne will be among the guest judges who appear on the new season of American Idol.
The singer joins the rest of the judging panel during auditions in L.A. Her episode airs Jan. 27. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Television

Series brings Lam's young doctors to TV

IAN JOHNSTON
for Metro Canada

Vincent Lam compares watching the TV version of his Giller Prize-winning novel Bloodletting & Miraculous Cures to looking at a can of soup. Say what?

"It's like when Andy Warhol did a painting of a can of soup," explains the author/doctor. "You know it's a can of soup. You recognize it as a can of soup. Bit its different — it changes when it's fleshed out in a different visual form."

Okay. But did Lam like it? Was this eight-hour version of his tale of three young doctors everything he hoped for?

"It was. I knew with the changes in formats, there would be differences in story-telling," says the Toronto-based Lam.

"My hope from the get-go was that it'd be true to the spirit of the book — to bring forth these human beings who are trying to do good. And I think if you really want to know how doctors live and work, you'll find this satisfying."

The miniseries centers on three conflicted doctors — Fitz (Shawn Ashmore), Ming (Mayko Nguyen) and Chen (Byron Mann) — whose complicate friendship (romantic and otherwise) proves a distraction to their jobs as doctors.

In telling its story, Bloodletting jumps from the three characters' days in medical school to a present day emergency room, revealing a triangular relationship that's anything but simple.

"In the first episode, you see the beginning of their story and the end. And the rest of the series sort of fills in the middle," says Ashmore (X-Men, Terry).

Bloodletting

- Bloodletting & Miraculous Cures premieres on HBO-Canada Sunday night.



Shawn Ashmore, left, Mayko Nguyen and Byron Mann star in Bloodletting and Miraculous Cures.

Second Ohio police chief in Parker-Broderick case enters plea

SNOOPING The second Ohio police chief charged with snooping on the woman who bore twins for Sarah Jessica Parker and Matthew Broderick has pleaded no contest to a misdemeanour. Dojack is chief of Bridgeport in eastern Ohio. He and the ex-chief of neighbouring Martins Ferry were accused in an alleged scheme to take things from the surrogate's home to sell to paparazzi.

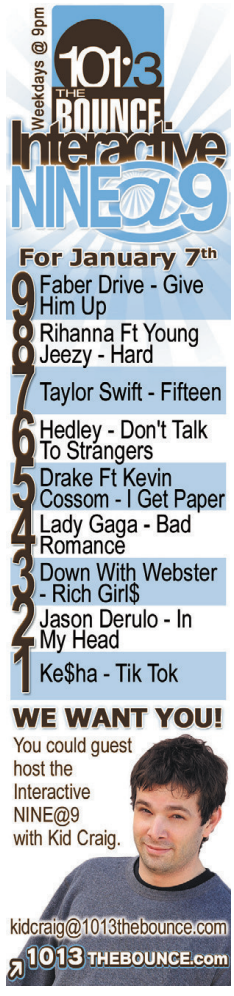
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

In brief

SAG AWARDS Alec Baldwin, Meryl Streep, George Clooney, Sandra Bullock and Jane Lynch will take the stage at the Screen Actors Guild Awards later this month. The SAG Awards will be presented on Jan. 23. The show will air live on TNT and TBS.

RE-ELECTED Veteran production designer John Shaffner is the chairman of the TV Academy — again. Shaffner has been re-elected to a second two-year term as chief of the Academy of Television Arts and Sciences. Shaffner and his partner, Joe Stewart, are an award-winning production design team.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



FRIDAY

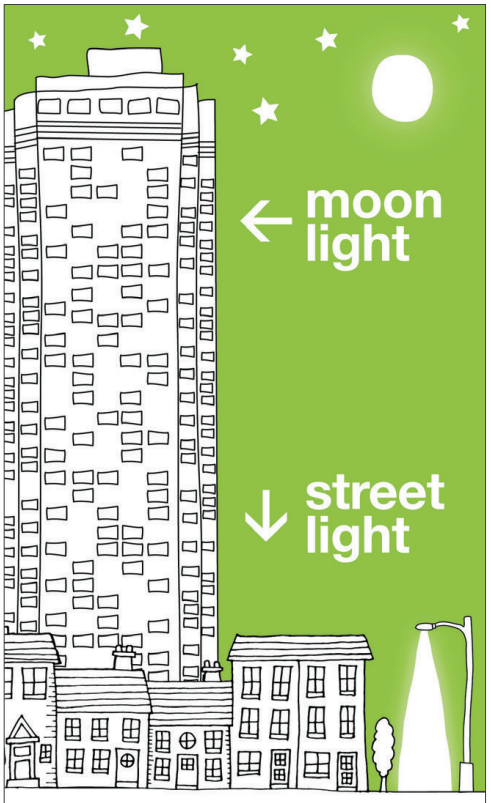
HA	H	D	B	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00
primetime 1/8/10	31	31	31 ABC	News Center	World News	Inside Edition	Chronicle	Supernanny (N)		Shark Tank (N)		20/20
	7	7	7 ASN	The Road to Avonlea		Degrassi	TMZ (N)	*Wall of Secrets* (2003, Suspense) Nicole Eggert.				Comedy Now
	11	11	11 CBC	Wheel Fortune	Jeopardy! (N)	Rick Mercer	Marketplace	CBC News: the fifth estate		CBC News: The National (N)		The Hour (N)
	32	32	32 CBS	WBZ News (N)	Evening News	Patriots All Access		Ghost Whisperer (N)		Medium (HDTV) (N)		NUMB3RS (N)
	6	6	6 CIHF	Entertainment	ET Canada	NUMB3RS "Scratch"		Dollhouse (HDTV) (N)		Shark Tank (N)		News Final (N)
	9	9	9 CJCH	etalk	Access H.	Flashpoint "Aisle 13"		Ghost Whisperer (N)		Medium (HDTV) (N)		CTV News
	36	36	36 FOX	Seinfeld	The Simpsons	Two/Half Men	Two/Half Men	Bones Block party.		Dollhouse (HDTV) (N)		Fox First
	12	12	12 NBC	News	NBC News	Access H.	Extra (N)	Dateline NBC				Jay Leno
sports	55	55	55 SCOR	HSR	Covers	Aussie Millions '09		WWE SmackDown!				MMA Night
	53	53	53 TSN	Off the Record	SportsCentre	NBA Basketball Toronto Raptors at Philadelphia 76ers. (HDTV) (Live)					SportsCentre	
cable variety	16	16	16 A&E	CSI: Miami (HDTV)		Criminal Minds (HDTV)		Criminal Minds (HDTV)		Criminal Minds (HDTV)		Criminal
	70	70	70 APTN	APTN News	Investigates	Fish Out of	Blessings	Cashing In	Rabbit Fall	*Bill & Ted's Excellent Adventure* (1989)		
	37	37	37 BRVO	Wind at My Back		To Dublin With Love		Bravo!FACT	Cover Stories	White Collar "All In"		Dexter
	49	49	49 COM	Just for Laughs		Air Farce	22 Minutes	Corner Gas	Corner Gas	The Simpsons	South Park	Comedy Now
	18	18	18 CNN	Situation Room-Wolf Blitzer		CNN Tonight (N)		Campbell Brown (N)		Larry King Live (N)		Cooper 360
	38	38	38 DISC	Cash Cab	How It's Made	Daily Planet (N)		Dirty Jobs		Man vs. Wild "Namibia"		Hunt Mad
	34	48	48 HGTV	Extreme Makeover: Home		House	Property	House	Green Homes	Location, Location, Location		House
	46	46	46 HIST	Blow Down		Ancients Behaving Badly		Nostradamus Effect		*Double Jeopardy* (1999, Suspense)		
	17	17	17 MM	Love Court	My Date	Secret Life of American Teen		The Vampire Diaries		*Just Married* (2003, Romance-Comedy)		
	206	206	206 PIX	(6:40) *Heaven Can Wait* (1978)			(8:25) *Betrayed* (2003, Suspense)			*Walking Tall* ★★ (2004, Action)		
	39	39	39 SHOW	Trailer Park	Trailer Park	Relic Hunter		*Alice* (2009, Adventure) Caterina Scorsone.				Kenny vs.
	40	40	40 SLICE	What	Wedding SOS	Rich Bride, Poor Bride		Til Debt-Part	Til Debt-Part	Til Debt-Part	Til Debt-Part	Til Debt-Part
	21	21	21 TLC	Dress	Dress	What Not to Wear		What Not to Wear		What Not to Wear (N)		Dress
	22	22	22 W	House-Sell	House-Sell	Supernanny		Dine With Me	Grocery Bag	*You, Me and Dupree* ★★ (2006, Comedy)		
	27	27	27 YTV	iCarly	To Be Indie	iCarly "iGo to Japan"			iCarly	That's-Weird	Fries That?	Prank Patrol

SATURDAY

HA	H	D	B	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00
primetime 1/9/10	31	31	31 ABC	News Center	World News	The Brian McKnight Show		The Bachelor: On the Wings of Love (HDTV)				Castle
	7	7	7 ASN	The Road to Avonlea		Hockey Brawl-Battle		*The Saddest Music in the World* (2003, Musical)				Atlantis
	11	11	11 CBC	National	Hockey Night	NHL Hockey Pittsburgh Penguins at Toronto Maple Leafs. (HDTV) (Live)						NHL Hockey
	32	32	32 CBS	WBZ News (N)	Evening News	Wheel-Fortune	Jeopardy!	Ghost Whisperer		NUMB3RS "Cover Me"		48 Hours.
	6	6	6 CIHF	renegade	Jane Show	*In Her Mother's Footsteps* (2006, Suspense) Premiere.				The Guard		News Final (N)
	9	9	9 CJCH	NFL Football: AFC Wild-Card -- Jets at Bengals				NFL Football NFC Wild-Card -- Philadelphia Eagles at Dallas Cowboys.				
	36	36	36 FOX	Friends	Friends	Seinfeld	Seinfeld	Cops (N)	Cops	America's Most Wanted		Fox First
	12	12	12 NBC	NFL Football: AFC Wild-Card -- Jets at Bengals				NFL Football NFC Wild-Card -- Philadelphia Eagles at Dallas Cowboys.				
sports	55	55	55 SCOR	MMA Show	Footy Show	WWE Vintage Collection		MMA Show	Cabby Unlimit	Score on NFL	Footy Show	Hockey Sat.
	53	53	53 TSN	SportsCentre		World Poker Tour		Boxing Sergio Martinez vs. Paul Williams, Middleweights.				SportsCentre
cable variety	16	16	16 A&E	CSI: Miami "Sunblock"		CSI: Miami (HDTV)		CSI: Miami (HDTV)		CSI: Miami (HDTV)		CSI: Miami
	70	70	70 APTN	Hockey	The Mix	MYTV	Aboriginal Day	Music Speaks	Blackfly	*I Love You to Death* (1990, Comedy-Drama)		
	37	37	37 BRVO	Arts & Minds	Bravo!Videos	Spectacle: Elvis		Star Portraits	Books-Film	*Rent* ★★ (2005, Musical), Taye Diggs		
	49	49	49 COM	VIP	Bet Your Ass	Comedy Now	Comedy Now	Corner Gas	Jeff Dunham	The Simpsons	South Park	TBA
	18	18	18 CNN	Situation Room-Wolf Blitzer		Newsroom		Campbell Brown		Larry King Live		Newsroom
	38	38	38 DISC	Cash Cab	How It's Made	Cash Cab (N)	Cash Cab	Destroyed	Destroyed	Dirty Jobs "Glass Maker"		Verminators
	34	48	48 HGTV	Holmes on Homes		Flipping Out "Sell Out"		Million Dollar Listing		Property	Price	Makeover
	46	46	46 HIST	Ancients Behaving Badly		Nostradamus Effect		Cities of the Underworld		*The Bourne Identity* (2002, Suspense)		
	17	17	17 MM	The Vampire Diaries		*Just Married* ★ (2003, Romance-Comedy)				Love Court	My Date	Muchmusc
	206	206	206 PIX	(6:20) *Anaconda* ★		*Blade Runner: The Final Cut* (1982, Science Fiction)				*The Client* ★★★ (1994, Suspense)		
	39	39	39 SHOW	*Night-Museum*	About a Girl	Slings and Arrows		*Alice* (2009, Adventure) Caterina Scorsone.				*Night-Museum*
	40	40	40 SLICE	Til Debt-Part	Til Debt-Part	Real Housewives of Jersey		Real Housewives-Atlanta		Real Housewives OC		Matchmaker
	21	21	21 TLC	Dateline: Real Life Mysteries		Dateline: Real Life Mysteries		Dateline: Real Life Mysteries		Dateline: Real Life Mysteries		Dateline: Real
	22	22	22 W	Hwd 10 Best	*American Dreamz* ★★ (2006, Comedy-Drama) Hugh Grant, Dennis Quaid.					*Bridget Jones's Diary* ★★★ (2001)		
	27	27	27 YTV	Kid vs. Kat	League-Evil	Zeke's Pad	Prank Patrol	Amer. Funniest Home Videos		That's-Weird	Prank Patrol	Survive This

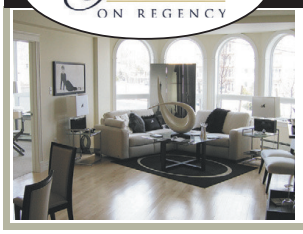
SUNDAY

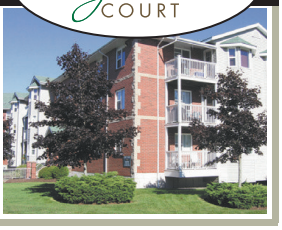
HA	H	D	B	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00
primetime 1/10/10	31	31	31 ABC	News Center	World News	Amer. Funniest Home Videos		Extreme Makeover: Home		Desperate Housewives		Brothers
	7	7	7 ASN	The Road to Avonlea		TMZ (N)		*Charlie's Angels: Full Throttle* ★★ (2003, Action)				Nip/Tuck (N)
	11	11	11 CBC	Heartland (N) (DVS)		*Shake Hands With the Devil* ★★ (2007, Drama)				CBC News: The National		Great War
	32	32	32 CBS	Basketball	WBZ News (N)	60 Minutes (HDTV) (N)		NCIS: Los Angeles		Cold Case (HDTV) (N)		Criminal
	6	6	6 CIHF	16:9 Picture	Family	Brothers & Sisters (N)		The Simpsons	The Simpsons 20th		Cleveland	News Final (N)
	9	9	9 CJCH	NFL Football: NFC Wild-Card			TBA	Cold Case (HDTV) (N)		Desperate Housewives		CTV News
	36	36	36 FOX	NFL Football: NFC Wild-Card			Postgame	The Simpsons	The Simpsons 20th		Cleveland	Fox First
	12	12	12 NBC	News	NBC News	Dateline NBC				Chuck Chuck flunks out of spy school.		
sports	55	55	55 SCOR	Facts-Fishing	Score Today	The WWE Experience		MMA Fight Night		WEC		
	53	53	53 TSN	SportsCentre		Hockey	World Poker Tour	NFL		NBA Basketball: Cavaliers at Trail Blazers		
cable variety	16	16	16 A&E	CSI: Miami (HDTV)		CSI: Miami (HDTV)		Criminal Minds (HDTV)		Criminal Minds (HDTV)		Jacksons
	70	70	70 APTN	Investigates	APTN InFocus	Canadian Geographic		Call of the Wild (Part 1 of 2)		*The Matrix* ★★★ (1999, Science Fiction)		
	37	37	37 BRVO	Spectacle: Elvis		Arts & Minds	Bravo!FACT	Karsh Is History (N)		*Twisted* ★ (2004, Suspense)		
	49	49	49 COM	VIP	Bet Your Ass	Laughs	Laughs	Comedy Now	Comedy Now	The Simpsons	South Park	John Oliver
	18	18	18 CNN	Newsroom		Newsroom		Campbell Brown		Larry King Live		Newsroom
	38	38	38 DISC	Discovery: 15 Years		MythBusters		The Hottest Place on Earth		Engineering Volcanoes (N)		MythBusters
	34	48	48 HGTV	Holmes Inspection		House	House	My First Place	Bang, Buck	Holmes Inspection		House-Bryan
	46	46	46 HIST	Ice Pilots NWT (HDTV)		Ancient Discoveries		Underworld Histories		*Training Day* (2001, Crime Drama)		
	17	17	17 MM	Secret Life of American Teen		To Be Announced		So You Think You Can Dance		So You Think You Can Dance		My Date
	206	206	206 PIX	(6:45) *Shout* (1991)		(8:15) *The Wedding Singer* ★★★ (1998)				*Witness* ★★★ (1985, Crime Drama)		
	39	39	39 SHOW	*Disturbia*	Kink in Hair	Cra$h & Burn "Gone"		*Disaster Zone: Volcano in New York* (2006, Action)				NCIS
	40	40	40 SLICE	Buy Me	Buy Me	The Big Flip	Marriage	X-Weighted "Madison"		In Laws	In Laws	Matchmaker
	21	21	21 TLC	Tiger Woods		Kidnapped for 18 Years		Flight 175: World Watched		Brace for Impact		Plane Crash
	22	22	22 W	Hwd 10 Best	Beauty	Supernanny		Come Dine With Me "Bath"		*Plain Truth* (2004, Drama) Mariska Hargitay.		
	27	27	27 YTV	*The Adventures of Sharkboy and Lavagirl* ★★ (2005, Adventure)					Family Biz	Fries That?	Fries That?	Survive This



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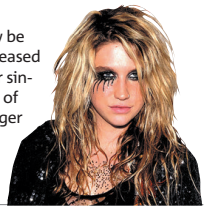
THE VIDEO EVERYONE'S TALKING ABOUT
Visit metronews.ca to watch metrotube of the day

Shania hosts radio show
In a rare media appearance, Timmins, Ont.-raised country singer Shania Twain hosts The Current on Friday morning on CBC Radio One, filling in for Anna-Maria Tremonti. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Going Out

Metro's 7th Heaven: Metro taps what's hot right now

1 Animal Instinct



MUSIC It looks like this may be Ke$ha's year. The singer released her album, Animal, and her single TiK ToK is the first No. 1 of the new decade. Not too bad for a singer who claims she used to wear clothes she'd find in the garbage.

2 The Hurt Locker



DVD After winning the National Society of Film Critics award on Sunday, The Hurt Locker became the frontrunner in the race for an Oscar. Directed by Kathryn Bigelow, the movie about an elite bomb squad unit in Iraq is being released on DVD next week.

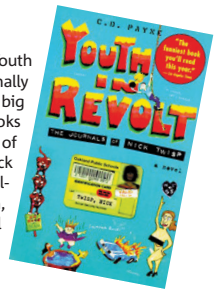
3 Kids in the Hall Return

TELEVISION After a lengthy hiatus from the small screen, the Kids in the Hall have reunited for a new series, Death Comes to Town, an eight part miniseries running on CBC starting Tuesday. If the TV previews are any indication, the series will feature the Kids' cruel wit and numerous fat suits.

4 Avatar Dominates Box Office

FILM As well as receiving nominations for a number of awards, James Cameron's sci-fi epic Avatar also maintained its box office dominance, racking in $68.5 million US last weekend and shooting past the $1 billion worldwide mark. It's only the fifth movie to do so.

5 Youth Revolution



BOOKS Payne's Youth in Revolt has finally made it to the big screen. The original books chronicle the experience of sex-obsessed teen Nick Twisp, who is brought to celluloid life by Brampton, Ont,-born actor Michael Cera. (Read Richard Crouse's review of the film in today's movie section).

6 Vampire Chronicles



CULTURE Vampires were the big winners again this week, with Twilight, True Blood and The Vampire Diaries all sucking up trophies at the 36th annual People's Choice Awards on Wednesday night. Friday also marks the release of Daybreakers, the latest film featuring these eternal creatures of the night.

7 American Idol's New Host

REALITY A new season of American Idol starts this month, but after eight seasons, is there still talent out there to support a ninth season? Just in case, the show has brought in talk show host Ellen DeGeneres to add a bit of humour and replace former judge Paula Abdul.

Mix of Six

Upstream Winter Summer Concert

When: Friday - Sunday, Saturday, 7:30 p.m.
Where: Sir James Dunn Theatre
This three-day event features different themed experimental musical numbers each night. Tickets are $20/adults, $15/seniors and $10/students.

J.P. Cormier

When: Sunday & Monday, 9 p.m.
Where: The Carlton
This Nova Scotia musical star, known for his stellar guitar playing, is performing back-to-back nights.

Premier Basketball

When: Sunday, 2 p.m.
Where: Halifax Metro Centre
The Halifax Rainmen kick off their 2009-10 home schedule with a match-up against the Quebec Kebs. There will be a halftime performance by Elisa Estrada. Tickets are $20 -$25.

OMJHL Hockey

When: Friday & Saturday, 7 p.m.
Where: Halifax Metro Centre
The Halifax Mooseheads are back on home ice for two games. The Montreal Juniors are coming to town first, followed by the Cape Breton Screaming Eagles on Saturday in the latest installment of the Battle of Nova Scotia.

Mike Cowie & Waterbabies Jazz Quartet

When: Friday, 6:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m.
Where: Niche
This well-known Halifax trumpeter is performing with his band at this Halifax restaurant. Enjoy a nice meal, and listen to some great music, too.

Maritime Junior A Hockey League

When: Sunday 6:30 p.m.
Where: Halifax Forum
The Halifax Lions are fighting for a playoff spot in the second half of the season, and will look to gain a valuable two points against a Dieppe Commandos team that has just 11 wins in 30 games this season.

A new brush with death

Beloved Kids in the Hall cast returns to TV after 15-year hiatus

CHRIS ALEXANDER
for Metro Canada

Though any new episodes have been absent from the airwaves for 15 years, the shadow of Canadian cult comedy troupe The Kids in the Hall still looms large.

Their special brand of broad, gender-bending, absurdist and abstract sketch humour was a staple of CBC's prime time schedule circa 1988 to 1994, inspiring a generation of comedians.

And, although they've continued to tour extensively in North America, true Kids completists, who've been clamoring for their return to TV, finally have cause for celebration with Death Comes to Town: an eight-part miniseries starting Tuesday.

Charting the tapestry of grimly hilarious events that befall the dimwitted populace of backwater town Shuckton, Ont., after the grim reaper (Mark McKinney) arrives, the show features the original kids.

Death Comes to Town premieres on CBC

They play almost every on-screen character — male and female — and the show is full of the kind of cruel wit that the troupe trades in.

"Almost everything I've written stems from an image," says Death Comes to Town co-writer/producer Bruce McCulloch. "Here it's Death getting off a Greyhound bus in a small town and the possibilities for comedy that could follow. We were on tour, and I had written an outline to do the show as a feature film, but ultimately it made more sense to do a miniseries. We have a lot more freedom here to get deeper into the characters' drawers."

McCulloch's countercultural influences have always been evident in The Kids in the Hall, with the results being that even at their warmest, there's always a sort of anti-establishment refusal to behave in their skits.

"I think our show has always had a rock 'n' roll edge," he says. "I love Iggy Pop and Lou Reed, and I really love weird movies. I stole a lot of David Lynch's feel for Death Comes to Town.

"When I was younger, I used to get drunk every night and watch Eraserhead. Because of this, my wife says everything I touch instantly turns to cult. This usually means the kids are hungry but, there it is …"



The members of Kids in the Hall return to TV with their new miniseries, Death Comes to Town.



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Tori's third book

Tori Spelling is once again returning to the bookshelves to tell her side of the story. Her third book, tentatively titled unchartered terriTORI, is scheduled to hit stores in June, people.com reports. METRO NEWS SERVICES

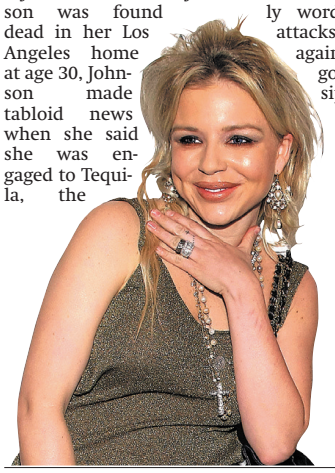
Celebrity Buzz

Attack of the tabloids

EX-LOVER LASHES OUT Casey Johnson's longtime girlfriend Courtenay Semel has broken her silence after the heiress' death to lash out at another woman close to Johnson — reality star Tila Tequila, people.com reports.

"The thing I find the most sickening is that the media is giving (her) the one thing she craves: Attention. Tila, you knew her for a week," Semel tells People.

Just weeks before Johnson was found dead in her Los Angeles home at age 30, Johnson made tabloid news when she said she was engaged to Tequila, the star of MTV's over-the-top matchmaking show A Shot at Love with Tila Tequila.



And it was the 28-year-old Tequila (real name Tila Nguyen) who announced Johnson's death on her Twitter page.

Since then, Tequila has posted a series of bizarre messages on Twitter about her relationship with Johnson, along with crudely worded attacks against gossip blogger Perez Hilton. (Tequila has declined interview requests).

Billy Bush, host of Access Hollywood, Tweeted in response, "Gross... claims 2 b mourning fiancée but seems 2 b pumping her new gossip blog."

METRO NEWS SERVICES

What'd I say again?: Mariah

ALCOHOL-INFLUENCED SPEECH Mariah Carey is blaming it on the alcohol, usmagazine.com reports.

At Wednesday's People's Choice Awards, the diva, 40, was asked about her sloshy speech Tuesday at the Palm Springs International Film Festival awards gala.

"I don't even know what it was," she told reporters. "I heard clapping. You know, Lee (Michaels, Precious director) and I hadn't seen each other in a long time, and he started right in with all these inside jokes, and I was like, OK.

"We were celebrating and having little splashes, and I hadn't eaten, and that's what it was. We were celebrating the movie and all the exciting stuff going on. There's a time for celebration and a time for not - but really technically, it's a party atmosphere. We had splashes of champagne. I love Lee, but he's a bad influence."

Carey was the butt of jokes by Sean Penn and Jason Reitman, director of Up In the Air. "I think it feels just as good as Mariah Carey feels right now," Reitman joked onstage while accepting an award at the show. "I should really leave now. I don't think it gets better than that."



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Celebrity tweets

Jonathan Ross may be quitting his talk show, but he isn't quitting Twitter, Heidi Montag is catching up on TV from seven years ago and Kathy Griffin questions her own success.

• @wossy Don't worry, I won't stop tweeting!

• @heidimontag I'm watching The Simple Life! @parishilton and @nicolerichie you are so funny! thats hot!

• @kathygriffin Random House just gave me news that "Official Book Club Selection" #21 on NY Times best seller list. Is Oprah jst buying them so u WON'T???



METRO NEWS SERVICE

Tiger swings both ways, says source

MORE ALLEGATIONS One of Tiger Woods' alleged mistresses, Loredana Jolie Ferriolo, is hawking an x-rated tell-all about her times with the golf pro, even insisting that she witnessed Woods engage in sexual activity with other men, according to Radar Online.

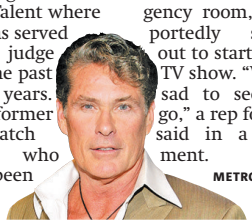
"She is in talks with a number of publishing companies regarding a tell-all book deal," one of her reps tells the website.



METRO WORLD NEWS

Maybe his talent should be tested

ANOTHER TV SHOW? David Hasselhoff is leaving America's Got Talent where he has served as a judge for the past four years. The former Baywatch star, who has been plagued by stories of alcohol-related rushes to the emergency room, is reportedly setting out to start a new TV show. "We are sad to see him go," a rep for NBC said in a statement.

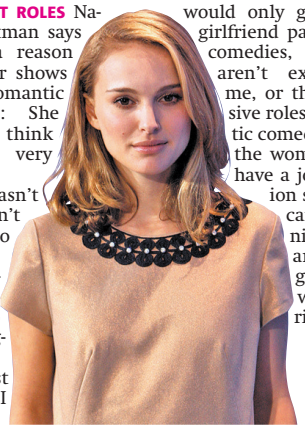


METRO WORLD NEWS

A woman of substance

THE RIGHT ROLES Natalie Portman says there's a reason she never shows up in romantic comedies: She doesn't think they're very good.

"It wasn't that I didn't want to do comedy," the actress insists to Elle magazine. "It's just that I would only get offered girlfriend parts in guy comedies, which aren't exciting to me, or those offensive roles in romantic comedies where the woman has to have a job in fashion so that she can have nice clothes, and her goal is always marriage."



METRO WORLD NEWS

Leaving on a jet... or not

MISSED CONNECTION Lindsay Lohan's return from her New Year's vacation in St. Bart's turned into quite an adventure when an argument with designer Patrick Aufdenkamp caused the actress to refuse to fly back on his private jet.

Instead, Lohan flew commercial and missed a connection in North Carolina, a saga she catalogued on her Twitter account. She and her sister, Ali Lohan, along with a family friend, opted to rent a car and drive 10 hours back to New York. Her advice to fellow travelers? "US Airways — don't fly them," Lohan posted.

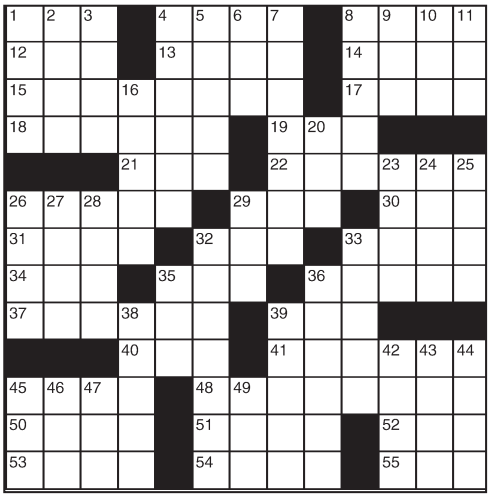


METRO WORLD NEWS

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Saturday Flurries 60% -1° / -5°
Sunday Variable -2°/ -10°
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Take Five



ACROSS

1 Plaything
4 Motion picture
8 Bachelor's lack
12 Praise in verse
13 Vicinity
14 Thoroughfare
15 Celebrate excessively
17 Pismires
18 Source
19 Fore opposite
21 Type measures
22 What Dorothy wanted to do
26 M*A*S*H* venue
29 Plead
30 Purchase
31 Enrages
32 Deity
33 Location
34 Actor Beatty
35 Simonize
36 Chose
37 Rehash
39 Chowed down
40 Mrs. McKinley
41 Reaping implement
45 Bend
48 Deteriorate
50 Zero, at Wimbledon
51 Some of the flock
52 Cribbage scorer
53 The yoke's on them
54 Withered
55 Eisenhower

DOWN

1 Takeout request
2 Bloodhound's clue
3 Bigfoot's cousin
4 Last to marry Bluebeard
5 "Reversal of Fortune" star
6 "Ben-Hur" author Wallace
7 Ran
8 Rage
9 Charged bit
10 Corpulent
11 McMahon and Sullivan
16 Curved moldings
20 Visibility hindrance
23 Last writes?
24 Soundless
25 Kept tabs on
26 Chess piece
27 Sandwich treat
28 Start from scratch
29 Carton
32 Closed carports
33 Glasses, for short
35 Marry
36 Futile
38 Prancer's companion
39 Michaelmas daisy
42 French military cap
43 Welsh emblem
44 Advantage
45 Showman Ziegfeld
46 Cold fish?
47 Night before
49 Have bills

Sudoku

For more/less challenging Sudoku puzzles, visit metronews.ca

HOW TO PLAY: Digits 1 through 9 will appear once in each zone – one zone is an outlined 3x3 grid within the larger puzzle grid. There are nine zones in the puzzle. Do not enter a digit into a box if it already appears elsewhere in the same zone, row across or column down the entire puzzle.

	9		4		3			8
				1		4		2
				6		3	7	
	6						8	4
			9		2			
3	7						5	
	8	6		2				
5		4		3				
7			6		1		4	

PREVIOUS DAY'S CROSSWORD AND SUDOKU ANSWERS:

S	H	O	D		V	E	N	T		I	O	U		
N	U	D	E		A	M	B	O		A	P	R		
I	L	O	V	E	L	U	C	Y		M	U	G		
P	A	R	O	L	E			E	R	A	S	E		
			I	F		U	D	D	E	R				
A	V	I	D		D	N	A		D	O	P	E		
B	O	B			A	F	T			C	O	L		
C	L	E	M		D	I	E		S	K	I	M		
		L	E	A	S	T		S	O					
E	V	I	L	S			K	I	C	K	U	P		
Z	E	E		I	D	O	N	T	C	A	R	E		
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A	P	E		E	P	E	E		R	E	A	P		

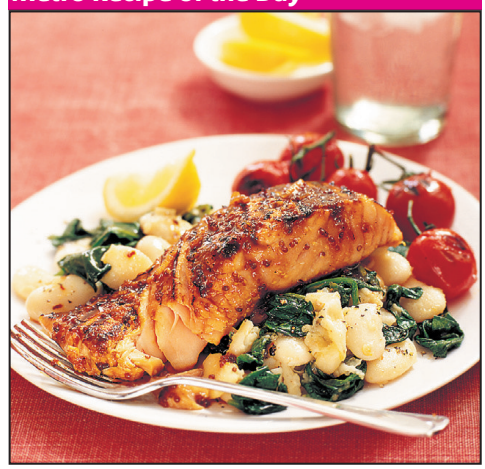
3	7	9	1	5	2	4	6	8
1	4	8	3	6	7	2	9	5
2	5	6	8	9	4	7	3	1
8	3	4	9	2	5	1	7	6
5	1	7	4	8	6	3	2	9
6	9	2	7	3	1	8	5	4
4	8	3	6	7	9	5	1	2
7	6	5	2	1	8	9	4	3
9	2	1	5	4	3	6	8	7

On the web

For more games and 60 additional daily cartoon strips, visit metronews.ca



Metro Recipe of the Day



Honey Salmon with Lima Beans and Spinach

INGREDIENTS:

1 Tbsp (15 mL) canola oil
1 Tbsp (15 mL) soy sauce
2 tsp (10 mL) honey
2 tsp (10 mL) whole-grain mustard
grated zest and juice of 1 lemon
4 skinless salmon fillets
2 398-mL cans Lima beans, drained and rinsed
1 garlic clove, crushed
2 Tbsp (25 mL) olive oil
pinch of crushed chili flakes
7 oz (200 g) baby spinach, rinsed
12 cherry tomatoes

METHOD:

1. In dish, mix oil, soy sauce, honey, mustard and 1 tbsp (15 mL) lemon juice. Add salmon and turn to coat.
2. Put Lima beans and garlic in pan with olive oil, remaining lemon juice, zest and crushed chili flakes. Set aside.
3. Tip damp spinach into dry frying pan and stir over low heat until wilted. Drain and set aside. Gently heat beans.
4. Heat frying pan until hot; cook salmon on both sides until just firm and pink. Add tomatoes for last minute.
5. Roughly crush beans with fork. Stir in spinach and seasoning. Divide among four serving plates. Arrange salmon and tomatoes on each. Serve at once.

SERVES 4

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For nutritional information on this and other great recipes, go to rd.ca or check out **Key Ingredients in this month's Reader's Digest, on newsstands now!**


Horoscopes by Sally Brompton sallybrompton.com

For Sally's expanded daily and weekend horoscopes, visit metronews.ca

ARIES ♈
MARCH 21-APRIL 20
No matter how many times you may have failed in the past you will undoubtedly succeed today and over the weekend. Help others succeed as well.

TAURUS ♉
APRIL 21-MAY 21
Cosmic activity in your fellow Earth sign of Capricorn makes this the kind of day when everything comes easy to you and self-doubt does not exist.

GEMINI ♊
MAY 22-JUNE 21
You like to use your head but it is possible to be too rational and today you should strive to let your intuition guide you.

CANCER ♋
JUNE 22-JULY 22
If you take a genuine interest in the people you share your life with they will take a genuine interest in you.

LEO ♌
JULY 23-AUG 23
You may be having a tough time coping but if you focus on your problems in the right way you will find the solutions you need.

VIRGO ♍
AUG 24-SEPT 22
This is potentially one of the best times of the year as cosmic activity in the sympathetic sign of Capricorn makes everything seem so easy.

LIBRA ♎
SEPT 23-OCT 23
Let your instincts guide you today, even if they lead you in what the logical side of your brain says is the wrong direction.

SCORPIO ♏
OCT 24-NOV 22
Anyone who doubts that you are a star won't doubt it much longer. You will do something today or over the weekend that takes the world by surprise.

SAGITTARIUS ♐
NOV 23-DEC 21
You may be tempted to get up and go somewhere different, but make sure you can get back to your home base quickly.

CAPRICORN ♑
DEC 22-JAN 20
All things are possible for you now. Cosmic activity in and around your birth sign encourages you to reach for whatever star has caught your attention.

AQUARIUS ♒
JAN 21-FEB 18
The answers you seek are not in the world "out there" but in your head and your heart and if you make an effort you will discover the key to happiness.

PISCES ♓
FEB 19-MARCH 20
Everything is set fair for you today, but there is a danger you won't reach your full potential because your confidence is so fragile.

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This day in history

1499: Louis XII of France marries Anne of Brittany.
1790: George Washington delivers the first State of the Union Address in New York City.
1835: The United States national debt is 0 for the only time.
1940: World War II: Britain introduces food rationing.
1963: Leonardo da Vinci's Mona Lisa is exhibited in the United States for the first time at the National Gallery of Art in Washington, D.C.
1973: Watergate scandal: The trial of seven men accused of illegal entry into Democratic Party headquarters at Watergate begins.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

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WE'RE LOOKING FOR PEOPLE WITH DRIVE.

COLLISION CENTER ESTIMATOR

If you have experience as a Collision Estimator and are looking for stable employment, on going training and working on a team - then this is your opportunity.

The ideal candidate will have strong communication and interpersonal skills, have the ability to prioritize tasks, be thorough, organized and have an adaptability to change.

O'Regan's has developed state-of-the-art collision centers, with the highest environmental safety standards. In addition to an excellent benefit package, we recognize initiative by providing opportunities for career development.

METAL TECHNICIAN

O'Regan's Collision Dartmouth is a brand new state-of-the-art collision facility and requires highly motivated self directed individuals who have the ability to prioritize tasks and have strong communication and interpersonal skills.

O'Regan's Collision offers:
- Extensive training opportunities
- Respectful work environment
- State-of-the-art technology and equipment
- Excellent administration support
- Consistent workflow year round for outstanding flat rate potential
- RRSP matching program
- Air conditioned shop environment
- Frame/ measuring equipment in every stall

The successful candidate should have:
- I-CAR training
- Autobody License
- Positive attitude
- Team approach

If you are interested in learning more about our team, please call Rick Dey 902-830-5182 after 6:00 PM

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